THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

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SPECIAL ISSUE:
YEAR IN REVIEW 1975

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SPECIAL ISSUE: YEAR IN REVIEW 1975

New Projects 4
A review of projects begun in recent months
Tiger Creek: A Dream Not to be Lost 8
Conservancy works to preserve Florida stream
YEAR IN REVIEW: 1975 11
Silver Creek: A World of Two Hemingways 25
Conservancy protects one of America's finest trout streams
Ecology Forum: The Protected Natural Areas Project 31
The American Land Trust 32
Oak Leaf Awards 1975 34
Volunteer Notes 36
Ways of Giving: The Pooled Income Fund 38

COVER PHOTO: Osprey, by Jim MacFarland
INSIDE COVER PHOTO: Hepatica, by Barbara Dodge

LAND CONSERVATION THROUGH PRIVATE ACTION

The Nature Conservancy is a national conservation organization, receiving its support from the public, whose objective is to preserve and protect ecologically and environmentally significant land and the diversity of life it supports.

To achieve this goal, the Conservancy purchases lands using its revolving fund which is then replenished through fund raising; accepts gifts of land; retains and provides stewardship for 60% of all projects; works with local, state, and federal governments to identify and protect important natural areas and acquires and manages land in advance of government agencies' ability to do so.

Some 899,748 acres of forests, swamps, marshes, prairies, mountains, beaches, and islands in 1,584 projects throughout the United States have been saved from destruction by the Conservancy since the acquisition of its first preserve in 1954.

A member-governed non-profit organization, The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in 1951 in the District of Columbia for scientific and educational purposes.

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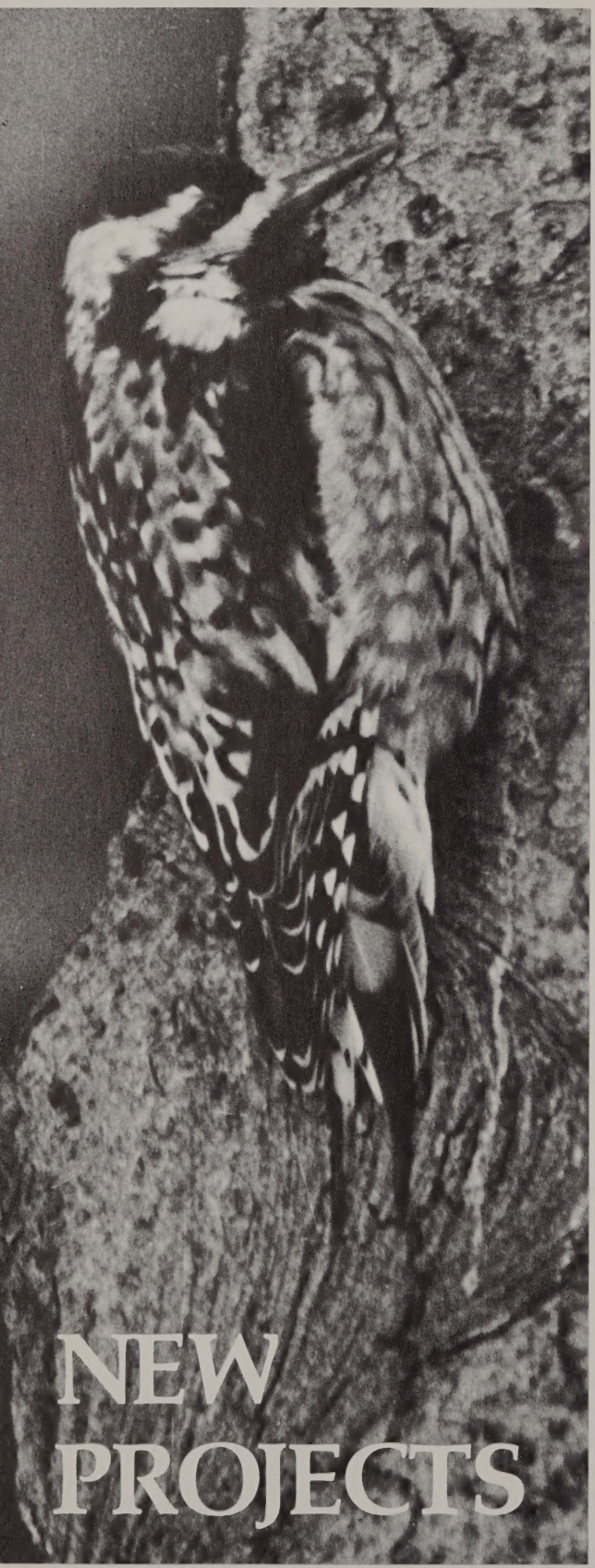


NEW PROJECTS

California

KNAPP SALT MARSH (Santa Clara County). The Conservancy has accepted the donation from Mr. J. Gordon Knapp and Mr. William R. Knapp of undivided interests in approximately 457 acres of the salt marsh to eventually establish a nature preserve. The property contains the only fresh-water resting area for waterfowl within a several mile radius, and provides habitat for white pelicans, mergansers, and a wide variety of other waterfowl and shorebirds. Harbor seals frequent the marshy periphery and use its shores as a hauling ground. The land adjoins the boundary of the proposed South San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

PURPUS PROPERTY (Mendocino County). A gift of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Purpus, the two-acre tract is a coastal terrace that provides access to the beach and tidepools below. The property is being coupled with a much larger tract of undeveloped coastal terrace a short distance to the north, which the Conservancy gave to the Bodega Bay Institute. The Purpus property will also be given to the Institute for use in its marine ecology education program.

SANTA ROSA MOUNTAINS BIGHORN SHEEP PRESERVE (Riverside County). Located near Palm Springs, the 1,180-acre area represents a portion of the best remaining desert bighorn sheep habitat and contains the largest remaining herds of sheep. The property consists of desert canyon lands with a nearly year-round water supply which is critical for the survival of the sheep. Acquired in cooperation with California's Wildlife Conservation Board, Department of Fish and Game, the land will be transferred to and managed by the Board.

Colorado

BUNKER HILL PLACER PRESERVE (Boulder County). 90 acres of alpine tundra including some timberline trees were donated by James B. Benedict, Jr. The land controls a small alpine watershed fed by meltwater from a series of perennial snowbanks. Management of the area is the responsibility of the Rocky Mountain Field Office.

Connecticut

HELEN ALTSCHUL PRESERVE (Town of Stamford). A gift of Mrs. Helen G. Altschul, the 150-acre preserve is part of the largest undeveloped area in Stamford, Connecticut, and contains a portion of the East Branch of the Mianus River. Mature forest covers much of the preserve, but there are also extensive wetland areas. The swamps and several small streams support great blue heron,

yellow-rumped warblers, kinglets, white-throated sparrows, muskrats, and raccoons. Mallards and Canada geese are abundant and believed to breed on the property. Management of the area is the responsibility of the Connecticut Chapter.

PATTAGANSETT MARSH PRESERVE—Addition—(Town of East Lyme). A conservation easement on 11 acres of beach and dunes is a gift of the Old Black Point Association. The tract's dunes serve to protect Pattagansett Marsh from the onslaught of the ocean and to trap sediments upon which the marsh can build. Vegetation includes beach grass, bayberry, orache, goldenrod, spikerush, and beach plum.

Florida

BIG CYPRESS SWAMP—Additions—(Collier County). Several small tracts totaling 54 acres were purchased by the Conservancy for the National Park Service as additions to the Big Cypress National Fresh Water Reserve. The Reserve provides important feeding, nesting, and wintering areas—as well as resting places—for birds migrating to and from South and Central America. The swamp's sawgrass prairie, cypress hammocks, and shallow flowing water also provide habitat for alligator, bald eagle, deer, osprey, and panther. The properties will be transferred to the Department of the Interior for administration by the National Park Service.

Illinois

BELMONT PRAIRIE (DuPage County). Consisting of 10 acres, the tract is part of the rolling Valpariso Moraine and contains two acres of virgin wet prairie, while the rest is mesic tallgrass prairie. The area contains many rare plant species, including the white lady's slipper and the marsh betony. The Conservancy acquired a fractional interest in the property and the entire preserve will eventually either be leased or transferred to Northeastern Illinois University for management. A fundraising goal of $50,000 has been established by the Illinois Chapter.

LAKE FOREST PRESERVE—Additions—(Lake County). Gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Haskins and the Evelyn Shaw McCutcheon Trust, two tracts totaling 20 acres are being included in the Lake Forest Preserve. One area contains second-growth woodland of black willow, buckthorne, and dogwood; an open woodland of willow and cottonwood; and a high quality relict tallgrass prairie. The other tract is primarily open woods with willow and cottonwood trees. The properties will be leased to and managed by the Lake Forest Open Lands Association.

Indiana

HEMLOCK BLUFF (Jackson County). Rated among the top 25 unprotected natural areas in the state in Alton Lindsay's *Natural Areas in Indiana*, the 40-acre preserve contains maple-beech-red oak forest as well as a relict stand of eastern hemlock, uncommon in the state. One individual hemlock is the state-record tree for that species. Understory flora includes wild raspberry, wild hydrangea, maple leaf viburnum, ironwood, flowering dogwood, and sugar maple. The Indiana State Garden Club and the Indiana Chapter are conducting a public fundraising campaign for purchase of the land. The property will be transferred to the Indiana Division of Nature Preserves as the Bicentennial gift of the Indiana State Garden Club and the Conservancy.

INDIAN CREEK WOODS (Harrison County). Donated by Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Hays, the woods occupy a steep bluff overlooking Indian Creek. The woods are dominated by shagbark hickory, sugar maple, white oak, red oak, beech, and walnut. The 116-acre tract also includes one and one-half miles of river frontage and affords a spectacular view of Pilot Knob, which rises 360 feet on the other side of the creek. Dedicated as an Indiana State Nature Preserve, Indian Creek is managed by the Indiana Chapter.

Maryland

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN—Addition—(Frederick County). An open field now under cultivation, the 88-acre tract will serve as an important buffer area to the adjacent land along the Monocacy River already secured by the Conservancy. The property has been transferred to the State of Maryland's Department of Natural Resources for inclusion in the Monocacy Natural Resources Area.

Massachusetts

WELLFLEET BAY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (Barnstable County). Consisting of salt marsh and Cape Cod pitch pine forest with a wooded bluff overlooking a scenic arm of salt marsh and creek, the property is considered a vital buffer area to the Sanctuary's northern boundary. The 18-acre tract is being purchased by the Massachusetts Audubon Society with financial assistance from the Conservancy. It will be included in the Society's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.

Michigan

GILBERT LAKE (Oceana County). An area of approximately 245 acres, the property contains 5,200 feet of frontage on Gilbert Lake, one of the largest undeveloped lakes in the entire Manistee National Forest. The tract is covered with a mixture of upland and swamp hardwoods, pine plantations, and old fields. The area will be transferred to and managed by the U.S. Forest Service as an undeveloped recreation area within the Manistee National Forest.

MOSLEY-BENNETT-BARLOW PRESERVE (Washtenaw and Wayne Counties). A gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Mosley and Mr. Clarence E. Bennett, the 50-acre area contains two miles of frontage along the Huron River and provides an excellent habitat for ducks, terns, American bitterns, kingfishers, egrets, green herons, and other waterbirds. Approximately half of the property is upland containing mixed mesophytic forest with hardwoods common to that area of Michigan. The land will be transferred to the Washtenaw Land Conservancy and Washtenaw County Parks for management.

Minnesota

MISSISSIPPI RIVER ISLANDS (Sherburne and Wright Counties). The 182-acre preserve contains five islands and a 40-acre tract of shoreline lying along a five-mile spanse of the Mississippi River. This stretch of river is a state-designated canoe route and is presently under consideration as a Scenic River. Islands in the complex contain fine examples of floodplain flora. Dominant canopy trees include American elm, slippery elm, black and green ash, eastern cottonwood, silver maple, and box elder. Higher portions of some of the islands harbor basswood, hackberry, ironwood, sugar maple, bur oak, and paper birch. Of interest on one island is the presence of bladdernut, which represents the northwesternmost extension of the range of this species. The property, a gift of Northern States Power Company, will be transferred to to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for management.

Missouri

WILLIAMS MEMORIAL PRAIRIE (Douglas County). A gift of Jim Frazier and Leila Ferguson Frazier as a memorial to N. L. Williams, the 40-acre preserve consists of typical seral stage Ozark woodland dominated by white oak, red oak, walnut, sweet gum, maple, redbud, pine, and ash. The moist banks of a clear stream support flora including delphinium, grey-headed cone flower, marginal shield fern, broad beech fern, and hydrangea. The upland portion of the property has an abundance of azaleas growing near the western limit of their range. Located approximately one mile from the existing Alma Peterson Azalea Memorial, the area will be managed by the Missouri Chapter and the School of the Ozarks.

New Hampshire

WHITTEMORE ISLAND (Cheshire County). The only island in Thorndike Pond, a 19th century mill pond, Whittemore Island is covered with mixed hardwood and softwood forest, such as spruce, hemlock, birch, white oak, and beech. Great blue herons and loons have been sighted on the island. The island is a gift of Mattie C. L. Whittemore and is managed by the Thorndike Pond Conservation Association.

Ohio

KEYSTONE NATURE PRESERVE (Jackson County). An area of 40 acres, the tract is a typical southeastern Ohio mesophytic forest, protected on one side by unfordable Raccoon Creek. Trees include beech, various oaks, hickories, black gum, red maple, tulip poplar, buckeye, and river birch. The tract harbors red and grey fox, white-tailed deer, grey and fox squirrel, raccoon, opossum, muskrat, beaver, flying squirrel, and wild turkey. A gift of Professor and Mrs. Donald L. Dadey, the property will be transferred to Rio Grande College for administration as a nature preserve.

LANDEN TRACT (Warren and Deerfield Counties). A gift of Joseph D. Landen and Elizabeth T. Landen, the area consists of open fields and farm-

land traversed by a creek. The 95-acre property lies one-quarter mile west of the bluffs of the Little Miami River, a State and Federal Wild and Scenic River. The property will be transferred to the Warren County Park District for use as a park.

SOUTHEAST PARK — Addition — (Hamilton County). The five-acre woodland includes hickory, maple, oak, and tulip trees, as well as wild hyacinth and maidenhair fern. Pileated woodpeckers, blue-tailed skinks, and other native wildlife inhabit the area. The property has been transferred to the Hamilton County Park District for inclusion in a proposed 2,200-acre regional park.

THE WILDERNESS (Charles A. Eulett Preserve) —Addition—(Adams County). The Rowe tract, an addition to The Wilderness nature preserve, consists of approximately 47 acres. It is a high dolomite ridge with a well developed second growth forest composed of chestnut oak and shortleaf pine. The area helps link The Wilderness to Buzzardroost Rock Preserve to the south. The Conservancy has been given the remaining one-third interest in the property by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rowe, Jr., and will transfer the land to the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History to become part of The Wilderness nature preserve.

Oregon

SOUTH SLOUGH—Addition—(Coos County). An addition to the 2,100-acre South Slough Estuarine Sanctuary, the 100-acre tract was acquired in a cooperative effort with the Oregon State Land Board. South Slough is a near pristine estuary which serves as a nursery for anadromous fish (coho, trout, and steelhead), and as a habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl. Birdlife includes bald eagle, osprey, snowy plover, common egret, and brown pelican. The area also contains one known heron rookery and several river otter den sites. In addition to algae communities, plants include eelgrass, willows, alder, and coniferous forests of spruce, fir, and cedar on higher grounds. The tract will be transferred to the State of Oregon for administration by the State Land Board.

Vermont

GREEN MOUNTAIN—West River Greenway—(Windham County). The Conservancy provided financial assistance to the Conservation Society of Southern Vermont to acquire an area of 1,316 acres along the West River. Most of the tracts comprising this parcel are wooded (hemlock, white pine, maple, ash, red oak, yellow birch, and beech) with mosses and ferns as ground cover. There are also beaver ponds and wetlands on the property.

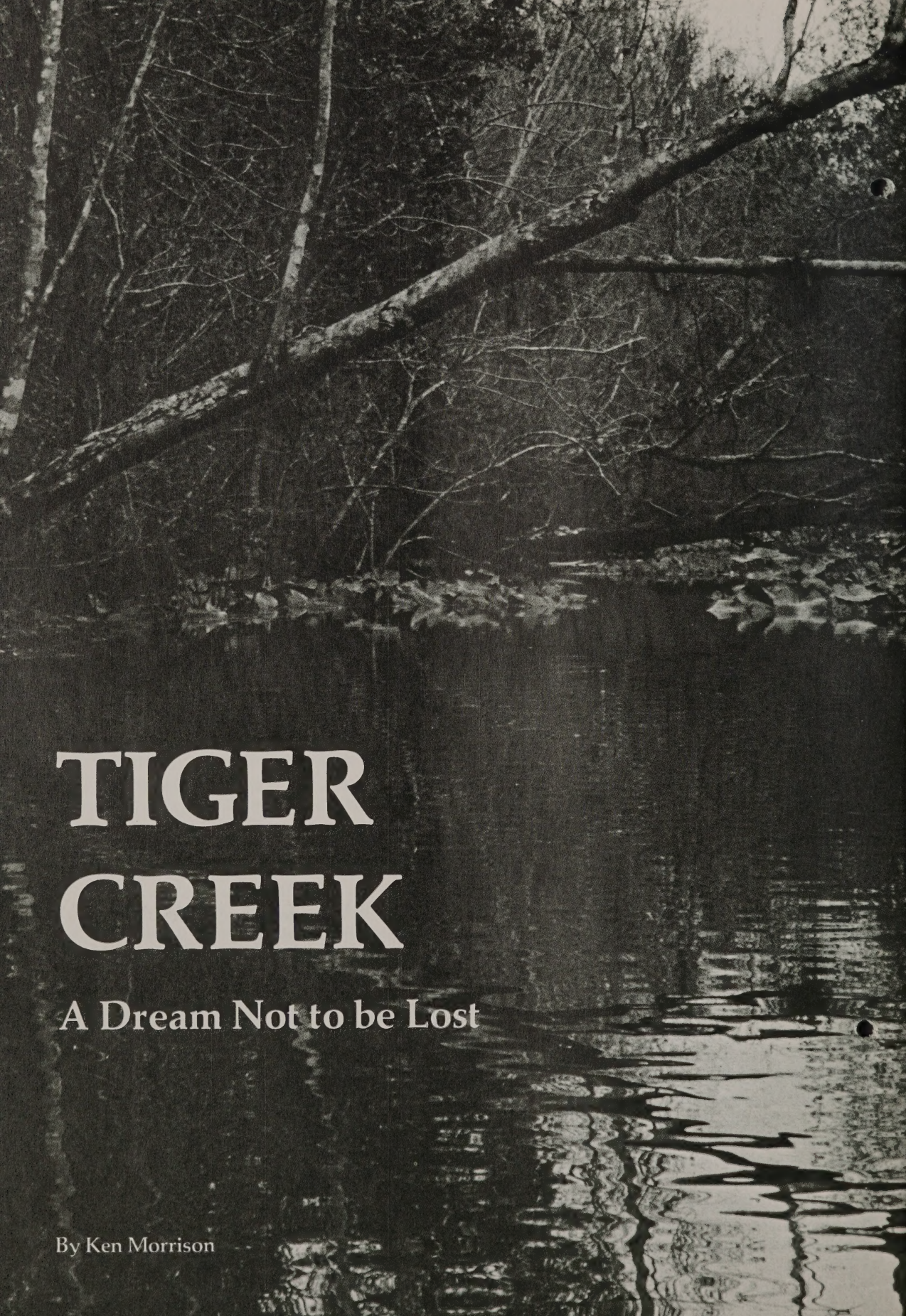
Virginia

RANN PRESERVE (Albemarle County). An area of 80 acres with frontage on the Charlottesville Reservoir, the property is a mixture of woodlands, streams, and floodplain. The preserve harbors white-tailed deer, opossum, beaver, red-tailed hawk, and great blue heron. A fund raising effort of $180,000 is being conducted by the Rann Preserve Committee. Management of the land is the responsibility of the committee until the preserve is transferred to the city of Charlottesville and Albemarle County for administration as a public park.

Wyoming

FISH CREEK RANCH (Teton County). The Conservancy was given a conservation easement on 354 acres of land owned by Gilman Ordway. Located in the ecologically rich Snake River Valley, the area provides shelter for migrating elk, moose, and waterfowl. Fish Creek runs for one mile through the property.

JENKINS PROPERTY (Teton County). A conservation easement on a 100-acre tract is a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Jenkins. The area consists of rich riparian habitat, willow, spruce, cottonwood, and pastureland. Waterfowl, moose, elk, beaver, muskrat, hawk, and osprey inhabit the land. The property is part of the Snake River Valley, an important migratory spot for elk, moose, and waterfowl.



TIGER CREEK

A Dream Not to be Lost

By Ken Morrison

Tiger Creek is a beautiful, crystal-clear stream in central Florida near Lake Wales. Access to the creek is not easy, so—fortunately—it has been bypassed by progress and is much the same today as it was when Seminole Indians crossed it on overland treks. However, after flowing placidly through all the turbulent years of Florida's human history, Tiger Creek is now "at the crossroads." It can be lost to commercial development or it can remain wild and pure—home for wood duck, otter, alligator, scrub jay, wild turkey, deer, and bobcat. What is Tiger Creek's destiny?

We now have the rare opportunity to shape its destiny, to preserve Tiger Creek as a living museum where young people of today and the future may see a precious segment of the original Florida as it was created: as a microcosm of the remarkable and wonderful balance between plants and animals that man has been so hasty to alter and so slow to understand.

The Nature Conservancy has an option to buy 1,720 acres along Tiger Creek at $260 per acre. By purchasing the acreage, we will save a broad belt of land along both sides of the creek, starting at its headwaters southward and running along more than six miles of its winding course which flows through forests of oak, maple, bay, tupelo, and pine.

It is gratifying to report that many people who have never seen Tiger Creek are sending in generous contributions to save land along the creek. They are writing what we hope will be a successful and happy chapter to a fascinating story that started back in 1925.

Roger Babson, the well-known economist, invited retired *Ladies Home Journal* editor, Edward Bok, to go with him to visit a miniwilderness known as the Tiger Creek Swamp, located only eight miles southeast of their winter homes in Lake Wales. Bok was delighted with pristine Tiger Creek and the luxuriant vegetation surrounding it. The area immediately reminded him of an island off the Dutch coast where his grandparents had lived. So he dubbed it the "Texel Jungle" and resolved to buy and protect virtually the entire creek. In 1924 Edward Bok wrote in his book, *Twice Thirty:*

> "Today it is still possible to find adjacent to miles of cultivated land a tract of tropical jungle exactly as the Indians left it . . . too impenetrably tropical and too slow in its transformation for the feverish Floridian to plunge into and change into revenue-producing tracts. But it will not be for long!"

The owner of Bok's irresistible jungle quoted a price of little more than $10 an acre for the land. Bok was ecstatic. He ordered boundary surveys, hired two wardens, and commissioned the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, to oversee the whole project and insure that the natural beauty of the area would be retained even though it would be open for limited public use.

History reveals that Bok suffered severe frustration over Tiger Creek: Olmstead presented him with a perplexing list of boundary alternatives, the Polk County Commission was extremely slow to respond to his requests for cooperation, and—perhaps the crucial blow—Bok could not get assurances from county or state officials that they would never build roads through his jungle sanctuary. So Edward Bok sadly advised Babson and Olmsted that he was giving up the project. The surveyors and wardens were dismissed.

Tiger Creek continued to meander through swamps and sandhills, pine and oak. In some places it is wide and calm; in others it is narrow and more turbulent. Descendants of the deer and wild turkeys that Bok saw still come to drink at the creek today. Alligators laze in the shadow-patterned waters and otters play among the water lettuce and lilies. Ospreys call overhead and wood ducks whistle their way down the creek's corridor. Scrub jays lend their dramatic color to the sandhill vegetation that intrudes to the creek's edges at various points along its course. Few people see the wildlife because the "jungle" is so thick and there are many impediments to canoe travel. The roads which Bok feared still have not been built; that fortuitous fact surely accounts for the unspoiled character of Tiger Creek and the presence of much of its diverse wildlife.

Green herons are among the many species of wildlife which thrive on the Tiger Creek property.

A backwater along Tiger Creek

About ten years ago, Edward Bok's son, Cary, recalled his father's old dream of protecting Tiger Creek. He asked me to investigate and let him know if the area had been converted into a subdivision. At that time, he was a member of the Conservancy's Board of Governors and a generous donor. I was astonished and delighted to be able to reply that Tiger Creek was much as his father had seen it. The water was pure and clear; the wildlife presumably less abundant but still there.

Mr. Bok wrote back on December 9, 1966:

> "Your report on Tiger Creek set me dreaming, even as Father may have dreamed forty years ago. Wouldn't it be odd and wonderful if today we could do through The Nature Conservancy what he wanted to so long ago!"

The same company that Edward Bok negotiated with in 1925—Alico, Inc.—still owned Tiger Creek. At first officials were willing to sell but, before terms could be agreed upon, the property was withdrawn from the market. Disney World was on the horizon then and visions of sugar plums were dancing everywhere.

Cary Bok's hopes were not realized. He could not fulfill his father's dream or his own. He died in 1970 just before a breakthrough allowed the Conservancy to acquire 580 acres along Tiger Creek. An adjacent parcel of 320 acres was added last year.

Dr. George R. Cooley, former member of the Board of Governors, is responsible for initiating the project to save the first two areas bordering Tiger Creek. Since seeing Tiger Creek some ten years ago, Dr. Cooley has never harbored a shadow of a doubt that the creek would be saved and that the Conservancy would do it. It was George Cooley who convinced Mrs. Otto Pfundstein to sell the 580 acres that she and her late husband had loved. He also contributed most of the money to purchase the tract. After years of further negotiating, Dr. Cooley persuaded Alico, Inc., to sell 320 acres last year. These two purchases were the opening wedge that resulted in the option obtained last December.

Today the dream that a father and son shared of saving a piece of Florida's original, natural beauty can be realized. The Conservancy is asking for donations by July 1 so that it can exercise its option to purchase 1,720 acres, thus protecting the most crucial portions of Tiger Creek.

An acre for $260—that's quite a bit more than Edward Bok would have paid in 1925. But according to Dr. Cooley, who is in charge of fundraising for the entire project, it's a real bargain in a region where wetlands have brought $5,000 an acre or more. Whether you "purchase" one acre or more, or less, your contribution may well be the one that keeps Tiger Creek forever wild.

An acre of Tiger Creek can be saved for $260. Will you "buy" an acre (or more or less?)

If so, send your tax-deductible contribution to Tiger Creek Committee, c/o The Nature Conservancy's national office.

1975: Year in Review

During 1975 The Nature Conservancy, its members and supporters completed 226 projects comprising 153,326 acres of natural land. This accomplishment represents the results of conviction and dedication of many individuals: the generous and foresighted people who donated land, those who gave funds to make purchases of land possible, and the chapter and committee members who volunteered their time and energies to acquire and manage natural areas and to make the Conservancy's programs a success.

Volunteer stewardship committees continued to do an excellent job during 1975. Forty-two preserves were leased or transferred to other agencies for management, with the Conservancy, in most cases, holding a reversionary interest. Nationally, 27 model preserves—areas representing the best examples of Conservancy activity—were established. In addition, 179 preserve inventories and research reports were submitted to the national office, and 29 master plans were completed and/or approved.

In the Conservancy's ongoing efforts to improve methods for identifying ecologically significant lands, emphasis throughout 1975 continued to be in establishing State Natural Heritage Programs. By the end of the year, the initial Conservancy Heritage Program in South Carolina had been transferred to the state for continuation. Programs were underway in Mississippi, Tennessee, West Virginia, and New Mexico. The Oregon program was continuing, and programs in two more states —North Carolina and Ohio—were set to begin early in 1976. Two other developments in 1975 aided in the efforts to establish a national natural inventory and data base for identifying and preserving natural areas: a contract with the National Science Foundation and receipt of a grant from the Exxon Co., U.S.A.

Each spring, a review of the past year's projects is published in order to inform members and friends of the Conservancy's activities. The pages that follow contain a portfolio of the Conservancy's achievements for 1975. Each project is a success for the Conservancy; but much more needs to be done, and can be done—so that more land and the precious life it shelters can be protected. The coming year presents many new opportunities and offers fresh challenges. With your continued help and support, the Conservancy can continue pursuing its goal of preserving and protecting the nation's wild lands.

William D. Blair, Jr.
Chairman of the Board

Arizona

RAMSEY CANYON, Cochise Co. (Bequest of Dr. N. C. Bledsoe) Deep, winding gorge in Huachuca Mountain range; home of many rare and peripheral birds and 15 species of hummingbirds. 280 acres. —MILE HI, Addition. 20-acre purchase adjoining Ramsey Canyon. Entire preserve managed by full-time caretaker and local committee.*

Arkansas

BLANCHARD SPRINGS (DOBBINS TRACT), Addition, Stone Co. 406 acres purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service. Buffer for Blanchard Springs Caverns.

California

BOUVERIE FLOWER PRESERVE, Addition, Sonoma Co. 5-acre meadow with lush growth of wildflowers. Purchased with funds provided by Mr. David Bouverie. Transferred to Sonoma County Park and Recreation Department for management.

FAIRFIELD-OSBORN SANCTUARY, Addition, Sonoma Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Roth) 48-acre tract expands preserve to 146 acres. Two ponds and stream fed by three springs; mature California live oak and laurel.

LANPHERE-CHRISTENSEN DUNES, Addition. Humboldt Co. Beach pine forest in Mad River Slough; 1-acre addition. Entire preserve, now 48 acres, leased to Humboldt State University.

PYGMY FOREST, Addition, Mendocino Co. 2 acres contain dwarfed Gowen cypress and coastal variety of lodgepole pines that make up the famous pygmy forest. Transferred to the state for inclusion in Jug Handle Creek State Park.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY/JOSHUA TREE, Riverside Co. Series of land purchases and exchanges to assist Riverside County and National Park Service in acquisition of park land. 493 acres.

Colorado

ZINN PROPERTY, Douglas Co. 260 acres of ponderosa pine forest and meadow; habitat for mule deer, blue grouse, pine squirrels, porcupines, eagles, hawks, and jays. Purchased for U.S. Forest Service for addition to Pike National Forest.

Connecticut

BURNHAM BROOK, Addition, East Haddam Twp. (Gift of Gertrude and Edith Lefebvre in memory of Leland B. Duer and Ethel Ely Pattison) 20-acre woodland dominated by red oak; buffer to existing 99-acre preserve. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.

BYRAM RIVER GORGE, Greenwich Twp. (Gift of IBM Corporation) 7-acre woodland on the floodplain of Byram River. To be managed by Byram River Gorge Management Committee.

ELIZABETH CREAMER PRESERVE, Town of Granby (Gift of Mrs. Elizabeth L. G. Creamer) 40-acre hardwood forest crossed by small seasonal stream. Transferred to Granby Land Trust for use as a nature preserve.

GAN KATAN PRESERVE, Town of Stamford (Gift of Carolyn L. Gaines) 10 acres with forested upland, small swamp, beech-covered hammock. Managed by local committee and Connecticut Chapter.

GRISWOLD POINT, Town of Old Lyme Barrier beach, highly productive tidal mudflats, Connecticut Chapter purchased second one-half interest in the 21-acre property; first one-half interest was donated last year by Dr. Matthew Griswold. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.*

HOLL PROPERTY, Town of Bolten. Poplar/red maple forest on Bolten Lake, small intermittent stream. 28 acres transferred to Town of Bolten for use as a park.

LORD'S COVE, Addition, town of Lyme. (Gift of Mr. Norman Harrower) 30-acre estuarine tidal marsh; habitat for muskrat, red-winged blackbird, other wildlife. Managed by Connecticut Chapter. —Richard Cooper Marsh Addition (Gift of Mr. Richard Cooper) 28 acres of Connecticut River floodplain and tidal marsh.

PHELPS RESEARCH AREA, Town of North Colebrook. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Blum) 1/5 interest in 343 acres situated in only area in Connecticut of northern hemlock-northern hardwoods association. Valley with two perennial streams, old-growth stand of white pine. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.

ROCK SPRING WILDLIFE REFUGE, Addition, Town of Scotland (Gift of Mr. David O. Shoemaker) 35-acre addition enlarges preserve to 367

Samuel H. Ordway, Jr., Memorial Prairie

The Ordway Prairie, a 7,600-acre grassland located six miles west of Leola, South Dakota, is one of the largest and most significant of the country's remaining grassland reserves. Established as a memorial to pioneer environmentalist Samuel H. Ordway, Jr.—a founder of the Conservation Foundation—the prairie contains more than four hundred wetlands which provide haven for waterfowl and wildlife. An estimated 1,000 to 2,000 pairs of breeding waterfowl, including mallards, blue-winged teal, gadwalls, pintails, shovellers, canvasbacks, ruddy ducks, and coots, can be expected on the potholes in a wet year. The area is also inhabitated by the uncommon ferruginous hawk and a small herd of pronghorn antelope. The Conservancy has hired a local manager and has established a strong advisory preserve stewardship committee for the Ordway Prairie composed of range specialists; wildlife, waterfowl, and plant specialists; terrestrial ecologists; soil conservation agents; county agricultural agents; and local ranchers. Besides protecting the area's present ecosystems and native plants, the Conservancy hopes to re-establish prairie plants and grasses on 600 acres of old crop land on the preserve, and to establish a biological research station.

Little Chama Valley Ranch

Located in New Mexico on the Colorado border north of Chama, New Mexico, the vast 20,208-acre property encompasses a major portion of the Chamita River Valley. Between 7,900 and 9,900 feet in elevation, the property forms a broad basin of grasslands which are carpeted with wildflowers every spring and lined by golden aspen in the fall. The lush valley is surrounded by mountains rising to approximately 10,000 feet. The valley meadows, as well as the heavily vegetated mountain peaks on the western and eastern boundaries of the ranch, provide excellent habitat for deer and elk. On the southeastern boundary, the Chama River provides a prime trout habitat. Little Chama Valley Ranch was acquired in a cooperative effort between the Conservancy and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for management by the Department. The state recently renamed the area the Edward Sargent Wildlife Management Area, in honor of its former owner.

acres. Oak-hickory-maple forest on rugged, hilly terrain. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.

SILAS HALL POND PRESERVE, Addition, Town of Winchester. (Gift of Bethuel M. Webster) Wooded hillside overlooking Silas Hall Pond. Beaver pond and dam. 55-acre gift brings preserve's acreage to 93. Managed by Connecticut Chapter.

Florida

BIG CYPRESS SWAMP, Additions, Collier Co. Four purchases totaling 166 acres purchased for National Park Service for addition to Big Cypress National Fresh Water Reserve. Habitat for alligators, bald eagles, deer, osprey, and panthers; important feeding and resting area for migrating birds.

JANET BUTTERFIELD BROOKS PRESERVE, Hernando Co. (Gift of Mrs. Janet Butterfield Brooks) 80 acres contain mixture of high hammock, longleaf pine and turkey oak uplands inhabited by bobcat, opossum, armadillo, fox, fox squirrel. Part of proposed 290-acre preserve; managed by Florida Chapter.

GULF ISLANDS (PERDIDO KEY) PRESERVE, Escambia Co. 75 acres include beaches, primary and secondary dunes and swales, brushy vegetation, salt marshes. Purchased on behalf of National Park Service for inclusion in Gulf Islands National Seashore.

PORPOISE KEY, Monroe Co. 20-acre mangrove-forested island in Gulf of Mexico; habitat for endangered key deer. Purchased for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge.

TIGER CREEK, Addition, Polk Co. Pristine creek bordered by swamps and sandhills; pine and scrub oak uplands. 320-acre purchase expands preserve to 900 acres. Managed by Florida Chapter.*

WALK-IN-THE-WATER CREEK, Addition, Polk Co. (Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Bruce Newall) Pine, hardwood, and palm forest along creek; habitat for wild turkey, fox, otter. 4-acre addition brings preserve total to 13 acres. Managed by donors.

WEST SHORE, Addition, Martin Co. (Gift of Mrs. Joan Payson) 25-acre red mangrove forest; nesting cover for herons and egrets. Transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge.

Georgia

PIGEON MOUNTAIN PARK, Walker Co. 60-acre tract is part of 12,000-acre mountain wilderness featuring rock formations, caves, waterfalls, streams, oak-hickory-pine forest. Purchased by Georgia Department of Natural Resources with Conservancy assistance.

PROVIDENCE CANYON STATE PARK, Stewart Co. 30-acre tract provides access and new entrance to state park. Purchased by the state with an option secured by the Conservancy.

Idaho

NICHOLS RANCH, Idaho Co. 51 acres in heart of Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, meadow; crossed by tributary of Moose Creek. Purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service.

PANTHER CREEK PRESERVE, Lemhi Co. 140-acre key inholding in Salmon National Forest. Range for elk, moose; crossed by Panther Creek, a major branch of Salmon River. To be transferred to U.S. Forest Service.

TWO MOUTH LAKE, Boundary Co. 160-acre subalpine area with coniferous forest, wildflowers, 2 connecting lakes. Purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in Selkirk Management Area.

Illinois

GENSBURG-MARKHAM PRAIRIE, Additions, Cook Co. 4 tracts totaling 1.5 acres bring preserve to 94 acres. Prairie on glacial lake plain near Chicago. Scheduled for transfer to Northeastern Illinois University.*

LITTLE BLACK SLOUGH, Johnson Co. 2,506-acre river swamp with old-growth tupelo, bald cypress. Habitat for rare Swainson warbler and Indiana bat; active heron rookery. Held for transfer to Illinois Department of Conservation.*

REED-TURNER WOODS, Lake Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Turner) 14-acre woodland fronting Reed Lake and Indian Creek; diverse growth of wildflowers. Managed by Illinois Chapter.

TWIN CULVERT CAVE, Pike Co. 5-acre purchase features cave used during annual migrations

by 5 species of bats, including the endangered gray bat. Managed by Western Illinois University.

Indiana

KANKAKEE SWAMP WILDLIFE AREA, Lake Co. Extensive cattail and reed marshes along Kankakee River; open fields and wooded upland. 470 acres acquired on behalf of Lake County Park & Recreation Board.

OLIN LAKE PRESERVE, LaGrange Co. 130 acres include low, marshy shoreline on Olin Lake and surrounding woodland. To be transferred to Indiana Department of Natural Resources for establishment of state nature preserve.

PORTLAND ARCH, Addition, Fountain Co. (Gift of Mrs. Ellen Tharaldson) 5-acre oak-hickory woodland. Conveyed to Indiana Department of Natural Resources for addition to Portland Arch, a National Natural Landmark.

Kentucky

BOONE COUNTY CLIFFS, Boone Co. 46 acres with conglomerate cliffs resulting from glacial outwash with small, cavelike cliff overhangs. Managed by Kentucky Chapter.*

Maine

BIDDEFORD POOL, York Co. (Gift of Mrs. Katharine T. Benedict in memory of Hulbert Taft) 8 acres include rock outcroppings, gravel beaches, and tidal pools along Atlantic shoreline. Resting place for migrating arctic birds. A partial interest in 12 adjoining acres was a gift of Edmund W. Kittredge.

DYER NECK SANCTUARY, Lincoln Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Saltonstall, Jr.) Forest and marsh bordered by 3 ponds; active beaver colony. 50 acres. Managed by Maine Chapter.

OSBORN FINCH WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, Lincoln Co. (Bequest of Rae Osborn) 11-acre mature spruce forest on west bank of Medomak River. Transferred to Town of Waldoboro for management by its Conservation Commission.

PETIT MANAN POINT, Washington Co. 1,724 acres. See page 22.

SECOND ISLAND, Hancock Co. (Conservation easement donated by Mr. and Mrs. Allen G. Clark) 2-acre island in East Penobscot Bay.

STONE ISLAND, Washington Co. Rugged, steep-sided rocky island covered with white spruce-balsam fir forest. Nesting area for ospreys, great blue herons. 70 acres. Managed by Maine Chapter.*

WELCH'S ISLAND, Hancock Co. (Conservation easement donated by Dr. Francis H. Chaffee) ⅜-acre island; bird habitat and resting place for harbor seals.

WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST, Oxford Co. 1,447 acres purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in national forest. Rocky, ledgy forest land with several pristine streams and waterfalls.

Maryland

CHOPTANK WETLANDS, Caroline Co. 100-acre purchase is part of prime Chesapeake Bay wetland; habitat for endangered Delmarva fox squirrel as well as osprey, otter, crab. Managed by Mid-Atlantic Field Office.*
—Addition (Gift of Choptank Partnership) 276-acre wetland. An easement on an additional 30 acres was donated by Mr. Broughton M. Ernest. Preserve now totals 406 acres.

O'DONNELL TRACT, Dorchester Co. (Gift of James and Anne O'Donnell) 16-acre tract is half tidal marsh, half hardwood-conifer forest. Managed by Mid-Atlantic Field Office.

SEVERN RUN, Anne Arundel Co. 50 wooded acres on Severn River purchased for the State of Maryland for addition to Severn Run Natural Environment Area.

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN, Additions, Frederick Co. 3 tracts totaling 651 acres at base of Sugarloaf Mountain. The hardwood-forested tracts front both sides of the Monocacy River. Purchased for the State of Maryland for inclusion in Monocacy Natural Resource Area.

VAUGHN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, Worcester Co. 210 acres of woodland and marsh on Scarboro Creek; habitat for ducks, geese, fish, crabs. Purchased by Maryland Department of Natural Resources with Conservancy assistance.

Manitoga

A special preserve of the Conservancy, Manitoga, originally called Dragon Rock, is a 70-acre natural area and environmentally designed home of Russel Wright, internationally respected industrial designer. Only 52 miles north of Manhattan, Manitoga now serves as a model for the protection and proper use of a natural area, and demonstrates how human activities can be carried out in harmony with nature. Mr. Wright, who along with his daughter, Ann, donated the land, building and endowment funds that made the nature preserve a reality, serves as director of the preserve. He is also responsible for the concept of using Manitoga as a place where all may enjoy nature through a variety of innovative techniques and special events. Scheduled to open in the spring of 1976, Manitoga will be available for use by clubs, environmental organizations, scientific groups, and schools. There will be specific days set aside for painters, photographers, poets, even meditators; on weekends the general public will be escorted by trained guides along miles of carefully planned trails beneath 250-year-old hemlocks. A $400,000 fundraising campaign is underway for construction of a nature center.

Turtle Island

Bounded on the north by the New River, on the west and southwest by the Wright River, and on the east and southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, Turtle Island contains about 25 acres of white beach and 90 acres of upland which support a dense growth of palmettos, pines, cedars, and some oaks. The remainder of the island consists primarily of salt and brackish water marsh. Its untouched ecosystem provides habitat for an abundance of birds, including great blue herons, Louisiana herons, egrets, marsh hawks, black ducks, blue-winged teals, clapper rails, and mallards. Flocks of gulls, skimmers, and shorebirds rest and feed on the beaches. Donated by Union Camp Corporation, Turtle Island is the first in a "Land Legacy Program" under which the corporation plans to donate a number of selected land areas "to the country and its people" during the Bicentennial year. The 1,700-acre island has been transferred to the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department for use as a wildlife management area.

Please support
the
General Fund

the General Fund

The Nature Conservancy is a national conservation organization whose resources are entirely devoted to the preservation of land.

The Conservancy's General Fund helps provide the resources necessary to defray the organization's annual operating expenses. It is dependent upon public support.

Only with your help can the Conservancy meet the increasingly complex and urgent demands of natural area conservation.

Please give to the General Fund. Your donation **can** make a difference in the future of our environment.

Massachusetts

BEAVER BROOK VALLEY, Addition, Middlesex Co. 14 acres contain portion of largest esker in eastern Massachusetts. Entire preserve, now 81 acres, managed by the Conservancy's Beaver Brook Valley Committee.*

Michigan

BARKER CREEK PRESERVE, Kalkaska Co. 149 acres of grassland and northern hardwood forest. Held for transfer to Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

BEAR RIVER, Emmett Co. 7 acres purchased on behalf of City of Petoskey for use as outdoor laboratory and wildlife area.

BIG BASS LAKE, Schoolcraft Co. 70 acres include frontage on Big Bass Lake, glacial moraines and outwash areas. To be transferred to U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in Hiawatha National Forest.

DONAHEY WOODS, Alger Co. Relict mature hardwood forest. The 2-acre tract will be conveyed to Burt Township to become part of Woodland Park.

FLINT RIVER, Genesee Co. 2 tracts totaling 122 acres of hardwood forest along Flint River. Acquired on behalf of Genesee County Park Commission for inclusion in proposed scenic corridor between Holloway Reservoir and Genesee Recreational Area.

GRASS RIVER PRESERVE, Addition, Antrim Co. (Gift of Dr. Alfred Austin) 6-acre buffer to preserve, now totaling 144 acres. Managed by Grass River Project Committee.

GRAYLING WILDERNESS, Addition, Crawford Co. 174 acres include white cedar swamp, jack pine forest, frontage on AuSable River. Donated by Dorothy Knight to Trout Unlimited with the Conservancy named as reverter interest.

HOLLOWAY RESERVOIR, Additions, Genesee and Lapeer Cos. 15 separate tracts totaling 95 acres surrounding Holloway Reservoir. Project now totals 1,349 acres.

MARION ISLAND, Grand Traverse Co. 201-acre island wooded with maple, birch, beech, pine, and hemlock. Funds for purchase provided by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Power and by matching funds from Soil Conservation Service. Held for transfer to Grand Traverse County for use as natural area park.

OMENA BEACH, Leelanau Co. ½-acre beach fronting on Lake Michigan. Purchased on behalf of Leelanau Township as part of the town's Bicentennial program.

OTTAWA NATIONAL FOREST, Additions, Houghton and Gogebic Cos. Two tracts totaling 4,360 acres purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service. Cedar swamp, river gorges, streams, small lakes, beaver ponds.

PT. MOUILLEE, Addition, Monroe Co. 28 acres of marshland on Lake Erie and Huron River; resting area for migratory waterfowl. To be transferred to the state for addition to Pointe Mouillee State Game Area.

TOWER-TROY NATURE PRESERVE, Manistee Co. (Gift of Dr. Lucia Tower) Two tracts totaling 23 acres include sand dunes and typical dune flora along Lake Michigan shore. Managed by the donor.

Minnesota

CHIPPEWA PRAIRIE, Addition, Chippewa Co. 40 acres of mid-grass prairie on Lac Qui Parle Lake. Entire prairie, now 694 acres, is managed by Minnesota Chapter and is a unit in Katharine Ordway Prairie System. Funds for purchase provided by Miss Katharine Ordway.

CLARK'S SAND POINT LODGE, St. Louis Co. 25 acres include frontage on Sand Point Lake, rock outcroppings, mixed forest. Acquired for National Park Service for inclusion in Voyageur's National Park.

CROW WING LAKES, Hubbard Co., 2,770 acres. See page 19.

DAY LAKE, Itasca Co. Forested shoreline on Day Lake. 10-acre inholding in Chippewa National Forest acquired on behalf of U.S. Forest Service.

DIAMOND POINT, Itasca Co. 69 acres of northern hardwood forest directly across Wabena Lake from Joyce Estate (a 1973 Conservancy project). Transferred to U.S. Forest Service for addition to Chippewa National Forest.

PHILIP J. ENGLUND ECOTONE PRESERVE, Benton Co. 160 acres contain complex mosaic of prairie and woodland. Purchased and managed by Minnesota Chapter.*

GRACE NATURE PRESERVE, Addition, Goodhue Co. 2-acre bottomland along Zumbro River; habitat of threatened Minnesota trout lily. Minnesota Chapter manages the preserve, now totaling 13 acres.

LAIBLE WOODS, McLeod Co. 40-acre ecotone of southwest prairie and forest lands of northeast. Purchased and managed by Minnesota Chapter.*

LAKE ALEXANDER NATURAL AREA, Addition, Morrison Co. Frontage on Lake Alexander, parallel series of kettle lakes and marshes. 362-acre addition enlarges preserve to 602 acres. Purchased with funds provided by Sarah Maud Sivertsen Trust Fund, managed by Minnesota Chapter.

MacDOUGALL HOMESTEAD, Addition, Morrison Co. 113 acres include open fields and 6-acre stand of old-growth white pines. Entire 215-acre preserve is managed by Minnesota Chapter.*

MINNESOTA PRAIRIE CHICKEN PRESERVE SYSTEM, Additions. During 1975 the Minnesota Chapter purchased the following tracts for its system of preserves for the threatened greater prairie chicken. Management of each preserve is handled by the Chapter with the assistance of local prairie experts.

—AUDUBON PRAIRIE, Clay Co. 240-acre wet to mesic prairie; contains two established booming grounds. Purchased with funds provided by National Audubon Society.

—BLAZING STAR PRAIRIE, Clay Co. 160-acre prairie on undulating topography overlooking Red River Valley. Habitat for deer, marbled godwits, upland sandpipers, sharp-tailed sparrows.*

—BLUESTEM PRAIRIE, Clay Co. Two tracts totaling 880 acres of short-grass prairie. Judged to be the finest and largest remaining undisturbed prairie in the state.*

KATHARINE ORDWAY PRAIRIE PRESERVE, Addition, Pope Co. Tallgrass prairie along steep slopes of glacial moraine. 54-acre addition brings total acreage to 582. Managed by Minnesota Chapter.

OTTAWA PRAIRIE, LeSueur Co. 70-acre prairie on prominent bluffs overlooking Minnesota River; Indian mounds, springs. Managed by Minnesota Chapter and Gustavus Adolphus College.

SANDHILL CRANE MEADOWS, Morrison Co. 160 acres of marsh and meadow; nesting and feeding ground for sandhill cranes. Purchased with funds provided by Sarah Maud Sivertsen Trust. Transferred to St. Cloud State College for management.

SLEEPING BISON PRAIRIE, Swift Co. Dry rolling prairie with diverse tallgrass prairie flora; habitat for white-tailed deer, upland sandpipers, marbled godwits. Purchased with funds provided by Miss Katharine Ordway. Managed by Minnesota Chapter.

TOWER VIEW, Goodhue Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Chesley, Mrs. Raymond F. Hedin, and Mr. and Mrs. John S. Anderson) 337 acres of mature forest and marshland in Cannon River valley; wooded bluff and upland. To be transferred to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI SANDHILL CRANE SANCTUARY, Additions, Jackson Co. 6 tracts totaling 457 acres provide habitat for rare and endangered Mississippi sandhill crane. Held for transfer to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in proposed national wildlife refuge.

Missouri

EL DORADO PRAIRIE, Addition, Cedar Co. 180-acre tallgrass prairie on rugged, hilly terrain. Purchased with funds provided by Miss Katharine Ordway. Preserve now totals 419 acres.

MT. VERNON PRAIRIE, Addition, Lawrence Co. (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Lucas) ½ acre adjoining existing 40-acre tallgrass prairie preserve.

OSAGE PRAIRIE NATURAL AREA, Addition, Vernon Co. Tallgrass prairie crossed by Landon Branch, a stream possibly inhabitated by the endangered blacknose shiner. Purchased with funds provided by Miss Katherine Ordway; unit in Ordway Prairie System. Leased to Missouri Department of Conservation.

Crow Wing Lakes

Represented on this unique, single holding are all the major plant communities found in northern Minnesota. The 2,770-acre property spans six miles of frontage on five lakes—1st, 2nd, and 3rd Crow Wing Lakes, Palmer Lake, and Bladder Lake—and fronts on about five miles of the Crow Wing River. Valued at over $400,000, the land was donated by The Brown Land Company of Providence, Rhode Island, and will be kept essentially in a wild and primitive state. Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources will maintain the property as a Wildlife Management Area and give special consideration to the protection and perpetuation of existing wild rice beds and the protection of any rare or endangered species. The area's abundant and diverse wildlife includes deer, fox, beaver, coyote, and grouse. The marsh borders of the five lakes and the Crow Wing River provide outstanding spawning habitat for northern pike and other game fish as well as habitat for a variety of waterfowl.

Osa Peninsula

In cooperation with World Wildlife Fund and Rare Animal Relief Effort (RARE), the Conservancy assisted the Costa Rican government in establishing the Corcovado National Park on the Osa Peninsula. The 75,000-acre park is one of the largest undisturbed tropical rain forests in Central America, and its natural diversity is matched by that of few other places on earth. The Corcovado's 13 distinct ecosystems include swamp forest, estuaries, stands of red and black mangrove, lagoons, and a beach which runs virtually uninterrupted for 12½ miles between rocky headlands. Scientists have observed 30 species of bats, 42 of frogs, and 19 of lizards. The area provides refuge for numerous endangered or threatened animals, including harpy eagle, Pacific green and hawks-bill turtles, giant anteater, tapir, jaguar, ocelot, and margay. Approximately 287 species of birds have been identified, including significant numbers of scarlet macaw whose populations everywhere else in the world have declined drastically. World Wildlife Fund and the Conservancy have launched an effort to raise $150,000 for management and protection of the area and to establish a reserve patrol that will prevent poaching in the Park.

TZI-SHO PRAIRIE, Barton Co. 2 tracts totaling 240 acres provide habitat for greater prairie chicken and upland sandpiper. Purchased with funds provided by Miss Katharine Ordway. Leased to Missouri Department of Conservation.

Montana

CRAZY MOUNTAINS, Sweet Grass and Park Cos. 4,573 acres of prime Rocky Mountain wilderness includes lakes, meadows, grassland, alpine coniferous forest, headwaters of major streams and rivers. Inholding in Gallatin National Forest; purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service.

RATTLESNAKE CREEK, Missoula Co. 8 acres purchased on behalf of Missoula County for inclusion in river park system.

New Hampshire

QUINCY BOG NATURAL AREA, Grafton Co. Small bog pond surrounded by sedge meadow, mixed forest; 2 acres. To be transferred to Rumney Ecological Systems, owners of an adjacent 40-acre preserve.

New Jersey

GREENWOOD-RANCOCAS RESERVE, Burlington County. 1,800 acres of cedar swamp, pine barrens crossed by 2 major streams. Acquired with assistance of New Jersey Conservation Foundation and with financing provided by New York Life Insurance Company. Held for transfer to state as addition to Lebanon State Forest.

New Mexico

GILA NATIONAL FOREST, Catron Co. 376 acres contain broad bottomland hemmed in by steep bluffs, low hills; habitat for deer, elk, bear, mountain lion. Held for transfer to U.S. Forest Service for addition to Gila National Forest.

LITTLE CHAMA VALLEY, Rio Arriba Co. 20,208 acres. See page 13.

New York

ACCABONAC HARBOR, Additions, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Lenore Pollock and Mr. Michael C. Paylo). 2 tracts totaling ¾ acre of salt marsh on Accabonac Harbor.

—Merrill Lake Sanctuary, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Muriel A. Lake) 3-acre salt marsh; migration stop for black-bellied plovers. Managed by South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

BARBERVILLE FALLS, Addition, Rensselaer Co. 5 acres border Poestenkill Creek and contain large pit with many moss- and lichen-covered boulders. The preserve, now comprising 123 acres, is managed by the Eastern New York Chapter. Purchase funds provided by Howard and Bush Foundation.

BIG SIMONDS POND: SOUTH BAY, Franklin Co. (Gift of Mr. Lewis G. Adams) 5-acre island forested with cedar and pine. Conservation easement on nearby shore of the bay also donated by Mr. Adams. Managed by Adirondack Conservancy Committee.

DUNCOMBE PRESERVE (MT. HOLLY PRESERVE), Westchester Co. (Gift of Mrs. Frances R. Duncombe) Densely wooded, rugged land sloping down to swamp and brook; 48 acres. Managed by local committee.

FULLING MILL FARM, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Augusta McL. Robinson). 1½-acre lowland bordered by hedge row of shrubs and small trees. Managed by South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

GRIFFITH PROPERTY, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Eleanor B. Griffith) 13-acre hardwood forest; some trees estimated to be several hundred years old. Managed by Long Island Chapter.

HOPE GODDARD ISELIN PRESERVE, Addition, Nassau Co. (Gift of Mrs. Mary Dodderidge, Mrs. Ann Payne, and Mr. Sidney Mitchell, Jr.) 10½ acres of mixed woodland, open fields. Management of the preserve, now 42 acres, coordinated by Long Island Chapter.

HILLSIDE ACRES SANCTUARY, Chautauqua Co. (Gift of Mr. Gilbert J. Yager) 50 acres with beech-hemlock woodland in Appalachian foothills. Managed by Western New York Chapter.

HUNTER GOODRICH PRESERVE, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Hunter Goodrich) 3½-acre peninsula in Mecox Bay. Great blue heron rookery, feeding and resting place for waterfowl. Managed by South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

HUSING POND, Addition, Suffolk Co. Lowland vegetation bordering freshwater stream; 1 acre. Managed by Long Island Chapter.

MANITOGA, Putnam Co. 70 acres. See page 16.

MECOX DUNES, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Edith Breese Roberts, Lawrence McK. Miller, Jr., and G. Macculloch Miller II) 2½ acres of barrier dunes and Atlantic beach. Managed by South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

MIANUS RIVER GORGE, Additions, Westchester Co. (Gift of Norris and Mary Darrell, Dorothy T. Hubbell, and James Todd, Jr.) 4 tracts totaling 13 acres enlarge Preserve to 351 acres. Oldest active Conservancy project. Managed by local project committee.

MT. HOLLY SANCTUARY, Westchester Co. 221-acre purchase contains forested steep slopes, pond in transition to swamp. Managed by Mt. Holly Sanctuary Committee.*

NOYES PRESERVE, Oswego Co. (Gift of Mr. Richard Noyes) 90 acres include rocky shoreline on Lake Ontario and cliffs in which a large colony of barn swallows resides, displaying their original pre-settlement behavior. Transferred to Onondaga Audubon Society for management as wildlife sanctuary and research site.

PAZ YANGCO OSSORIO PRESERVE, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mr. Alfonso A. Ossorio) Two parcels totaling six acres border creeks flowing into Georgica Pond. Habitat for grouse, quail, great blue heron, mute swan, Canada goose. Managed by South Fork-Shelter Island Chapter.

RIPARIUS CANOE ACCESS, Warren Co. 1/3 acre acquired on behalf of New York Department of Environmental Conservation for use as public access to Hudson River.

SILVER LAKE CAMP PRESERVE, Clinton Co. (Gift of Betty Hicks, Hazel L. Kingly, and Gladys Larsen Pasel) Mature bog forest, high knoll overlooking Silver Lake. 53 acres. Managed by Adirondack Conservancy Committee.

WALLACE PROPERTY, Westchester Co. (Gift of Mrs. Ilo B. Wallace) Dense hardwood forest, wildlife habitat. 4 acres. Transferred to Town of Lewisboro.

DAVID WELD SANCTUARY, Addition, Suffolk Co. (Gift of Mrs. Mary B. Weld) 23 acres include forested upland and dunes fronting Long Island Sound. The preserve, now comprising 80 acres, is managed by Long Island Chapter.

North Carolina

JOCKEY'S RIDGE, Addition, Dare Co. 6 acres contain critical "feeder lands" for nearby Jockey's Ridge, tallest sand dune in eastern U.S. Transferred to North Carolina Department of Natural and Economic Resources for inclusion in proposed park.

ROAN MOUNTAIN, Additions, Avery Co. Three key parcels totaling 1,351 acres include scenic wooded slopes and meadowland contiguous to Appalachian Trail. Habitat for bear, bobcat, other mountain wildlife. 875 acres to be transferred to U.S. Forest Service.

STONE MOUNTAIN, Wilkes and Alleghany Cos. 2,450 acres with mixed hardwood forest and trout stream; typical mountain wildlife. 367 acres to be transferred to National Park Service for inclusion in Blue Ridge Parkway, remainder to the state for inclusion in Stone Mountain State Park.

Ohio

ABNER HOLLOW PRESERVE, Adams Co. (Gift of Judge and Mrs. Robert L. Black, Jr.) 218 acres contain steep gorges, and mixed woodland interspersed with small springs and prairie openings. Transferred to Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

BRADFORD'S TANGLEWOOD PARK, Hamilton Co. 83-acre beech-maple-oak forest in City of Cincinnati. To be conveyed to Cincinnati Park Board for use as parkland.

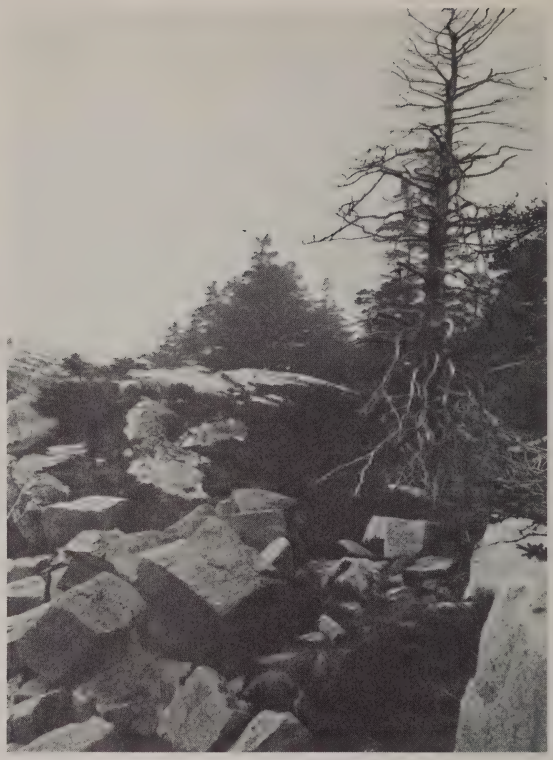
CHARLESTON FALLS, Miami Co. Deep, wooded gorge with 30-40 foot waterfall; 169 acres. Purchased on behalf of Miami County Park District with special financing provided by George Gund Foundation.

GLENWAY WOODS, Hamilton Co. 14 acres lie in deep wooded ravine crossed by small creek, To be transferred to Cincinnati Park Board for inclusion in proposed nature preserve.*

PAUL WOODS, Hamilton Co. 35 acres purchased in cooperation with Hamilton County Park District for inclusion in regional park. Deciduous forest;

Skagit River Bald Eagle Sanctuary

The banks of the Skagit River, 100 miles northeast of Seattle, Washington, support the largest concentration of wintering American bald eagles in the western U.S. Eagles are drawn to the area to feed on the salmon which spawn in the river between November and March and then die. Because the Skagit River is affected by upstream drainage and land use—as well as commercial and sport fishing—both the salmon and, in turn, the eagles' food supply are threatened. Continued encroachment on the land around the Skagit is also endangering the birds' habitat. Therefore, the Conservancy and the Washington State Department of Game are cooperating to create a major eagle wintering refuge which will eventually contain about 1,000 acres. So as to develop a management program to protect the area, the Conservancy is studying the eagles' food and shelter needs, as well as their present wintering grounds. Use regulations for the river are also being developed so as to insure a continued food source for the eagles. Although much of the sanctuary is being paid for through a combination of partial gifts from the sellers—Simpson Timber Company, Scott Paper Company, and rancher Fred Martin—plus federal and state funds, the Conservancy has begun a $160,000 fund-raising campaign to complete the preservation effort.



Petit Manan Point

One of the largest undeveloped peninsulas on the coast of Maine, the windblown, wild area juts into the Atlantic Ocean about 50 miles southeast of Bangor. The 1,724-acre property is gently rolling and covered with boreal spruce, alders, leather-leaf bogs, and glacial rocks. Interspersed between the glacial outcroppings are mudflats and sandy beaches. The land includes five miles of shoreline. Big Pond, a 15-acre freshwater pond, serves as an important resting place for migrating shore birds. The entire area is especially significant as a nesting and resting spot for large numbers of black duck; and other waterfowl include whimbrel (Hudsonian curlew), ruddy turnstone, black-bellied plover, osprey, American bittern, and blue and green heron. Mammals on the peninsula include beaver, mink, otter, white-tailed deer, muskrat, and snowshoe hare. Acquisition of the area insures the continued protection of a secluded resting and feeding place for the migrating birds and other animals. Sold by the William R. Mague family for a fraction of its value, the property will be transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for administration and management.

habitat for pileated woodpeckers, blue-tailed skinks, other native wildlife.

SOUTHEAST PARK, Hamilton and Clermont Cos. Six tracts totaling 98 acres, including a 40-acre gift of Mrs. Sarah K. Weston, were transferred to Hamilton County Park District for inclusion in a proposed regional park. Typical eastern deciduous forest.

WILDWOOD PRESERVE, Lucas Co. 464 acres contain stands of red and white oak, ravines cut by a stream, meadowland. Transferred to Metropolitan Park District of Toledo.

Oregon

ROGUE RIVER, Curry Co. 3 tracts totaling 439 acres within Scenic and Wild Rivers section of the Rogue. Habitat for great blue heron, osprey, river otter, deer, bear, cougar. Held for transfer to U.S. Forest Service.

SOUTH SLOUGH ESTUARY, Coos Co. 2,081 acres acquired from Georgia-Pacific as gift/purchase. Pristine estuary edged with salt marsh, eel grass, mud flats. Wildlife includes river otter, coho salmon, steelhead trout, various shorebirds and waterfowl. 23-acre Valino Island also purchased by the Conservancy.

Pennsylvania

NIERING PRESERVE, Monroe Co. (Gift of William and Catherine Niering) 30 acres of pitch pine, scrub oak, and oak-hemlock forest on ridge top in Pocono Mountains. Easement on 86 acres also donated by Nierings. Scheduled for transfer to East Stroudsburg State College.

RABBIT HOLLOW SANCTUARY, Lackawanna Co. (Gift of C. Welles Belin) 16 acres of woodland, swamp, two small streams. Excellent wildlife habitat. Transferred to Abington Township for management by Parks and Recreation Commission.

SEGLOCH BOG, Lancaster Co. Spring-fed bog providing habitat for endangered Muhlenberg bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*). Purchased by Philadelphia Conservationists, Inc., with the Conservancy's financial assistance.

South Carolina

TURTLE ISLAND, Jasper Co. 1,700 acres. See page 16.

South Dakota

SAMUEL H. ORDWAY, JR., MEMORIAL PRAIRIE, McPherson Co. 7,600 acres. See page 13.

Texas

MARYSEE PRAIRIE, Addition, Liberty Co. 3½ acres of tallgrass prairie in heart of Big Thicket. Joint project of Texas Chapter and Big Thicket Association. The preserve, managed by a local committee, now totals 7 acres.*

Vermont

GROSSE POINT, Addison Co. (Gift of David M. Keiser) Woodland and marsh on eastern shore of Lake Champlain. Gift includes 17 acres and easement on 80 acres. Great blue heron, marsh hawk, pileated woodpecker frequent the area.

MISSISQUOI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Addition, Franklin Co. Cattail marsh and wooded swampland; feeding and resting ground for migrating birds. 895 acres purchased on behalf of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as addition to national wildlife refuge.

Virginia

FALLS RIDGE NATURE PRESERVE, Addition, Montgomery Co. Steep, rugged ravine, Appalachian oak forest. Includes summit of Mill Knob. 180-acre addition expands preserve to 426 acres. Managed by Virginia Chapter.

FRASER PRESERVE, Fairfax Co. (Gift of Mrs. George B. Fraser) Final fractional interest in 220 acres of mixed forest fronting on Potomac River.

GREAT DISMAL SWAMP, Addition, Chesapeake City. 294 acres purchased on behalf of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Swamp with mixture of northern and southern plant communities.

JEFFERSON NATIONAL FOREST, Raven Cliffs Addition, Wythe and Grayson Cos. Gently rolling

to precipitous terrain, three creeks, woodland, and open meadow. Inhabited by wild turkey, quail, deer. To be transferred to U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area. 3,419 acres.

MASON NECK, Addition, Fairfax Co. 64 acres of flat wooded land adjacent to national wildlife refuge. Transferred to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

RAPPAHANNOCK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, Fauquier Co. 2 forested tracts totaling 3,800 acres front on Rappahannock River for 5½ miles. Purchased on behalf of Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Washington

BIRCH BAY, Whatcom Co. 19½ acres include frontage on Birch Bay and Terrell Creek; habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl. Transferred to Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for inclusion in state park.

CYPRESS ISLAND, Eagle Cliffs Addition, Skagit Co. 23-acre island in Puget Sound; nesting area for northern bald eagle. Scheduled for transfer to Washington Department of Natural Resources.

DEERING WILDFLOWER PRESERVE, Addition, Snohomish Co. (Gift of Mrs. Ivah Deering) 5 acres of wet Douglas fir-red alder forest enlarge preserve to 30 acres. Transferred to Western Washington State College.

FOULWEATHER BLUFF PRESERVE, Addition, Kitsap Co. (Gift of Mr. John S. Sullivan) 2-acre addition to 98-acre preserve of marshland and upland mesic mixed forest. Habitat for otter, marten, shellfish, shorebirds, and waterfowl. Managed by Olympic College.

GOOSE AND DEADMAN ISLANDS PRESERVE, San Juan Co. Two islands totaling 5 acres. Rugged coastlines and small gravel beaches which support large nesting populations of glaucous-winged gulls and black oystercatchers. To be leased to University of Washington for management by Friday Harbor Marine Science Laboratories.*

SKAGIT RIVER BALD EAGLE SANCTUARY, Skagit Co. 73 acres. See page 22.

West Virginia

HOLLY RIVER: POTATO KNOB, Webster Co. Top half of "knob"; scenic overlook, two waterfalls, stand of table mountain pine. To be transferred to the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. 104 acres.

MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST, Pendleton Co. 221-acre inholding in Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area purchased on behalf of U.S. Forest Service.

Wisconsin

DON ANDERSON WOODS, Iowa Co. (Gift of Mr. Don Anderson) 119 acres include riverbottom forest, undulating black oak barrens, small backwater slough. Transferred to University of Wisconsin for use as scientific study area.

U. S. Virgin Islands

BATTERY GUT PRESERVE, Parcel #5, St. John (Gift of Messrs. Shailer Bass, Carl Gerstacker, H. D. Doan, and C. Benson Branch) 29 acres in deep ravine covered with tropical vegetation.

Costa Rica

OSA PENINSULA. 75,000 acres. See page 19.

Dominica, West Indies

ARCHBOLD PRESERVE. (Gift of Mr. John D. Archbold) 950 acres of pristine tropical rain forest on "nature island of the Caribbean." Leased to Dominican government for management as part of an adjacent 16,000-acre national park.

***Fundraising in progress.**

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SILVER CREEK:

A World of Two Hemingways

By Ernest Schwiebert

The eagle circled lazily in the early thermals, where the river bottoms grow steadily more arid in the patchwork basin below Sun Valley. There are still a few irrigated ranches along the river, lying half concealed in cottonwoods against the pale windsculptured mountains. Cattle and sheep forage on the sagebrush slopes. The cottonwoods are already sparse below Bellvue, and before the county highway reaches Picabo, the valley is virtually a desert between its sheltering hills.

It was still cool after a leisurely breakfast in Ketchum, and the morning light was soft on the mountains. There is still little wind on those Idaho mornings, and the trees are turning yellow along the rivers in the first September frosts.

Late summer is perhaps the best time to fish Silver Creek, the famous trout stream near Sun Valley, in the brief season of cold nights filled with glittering stars and shirtsleeve mornings when its currents are covered with tiny mayflies. The wind gathers lazily through the morning, stirring in the stubble fields and scattering its bright confetti of leaves into the stream.

Another melancholy morning in Idaho! Jack Hemingway gestured jokingly at a cloudless sky. *It's forgotten how to rain!*

Suits me fine! I said.

The valley opens gradually below Hailey, where the chalk-colored bluffs rise above the cottonwoods beyond the town. There are potato fields and haymeadows farther down the valley, with intricately rigged irrigation sprinklers that move like delicate water sculptures in their changing rainbows of misting spray.

The smooth sagebrush hills are pewter-colored beyond their potato-field bottoms, where the county road reaches for miles across the table-flat floor of the valley. Except for the scattered ranches and their outbuildings, lying against the pale foothills, the valley is completely arid except for the irriga-

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Ernest Schwiebert holds a doctorate in architecture and planning from Princeton, and has written five books on trout and salmon, including *Matching the Hatch, Remembrances of Rivers Past,* and *Salmon of the World.* He heads a consulting group in socio-environmental studies called Ecosystemics. Schwiebert and Jack Hemingway, a commissioner of the Idaho Fish & Game Department, are members of the Conservancy's Silver Creek Committee and are actively involved in fundraising for the project.

tion channels that lie as straight as a surveyor's line across the fields. When we left the county road, the pasture dust billowed out behind the station wagon, thick and chokingly bitter in the nostrils.

It doesn't look like trout country, I said

Hemingway stopped at a cattle gate. *It's trout country all right,* he answered while I unhooked the chain. *Wait until you see the size of the tricorythodes hatches!*

Sounds good, I said happily.

Ernest Hemingway was a trout fisherman all his life, and family albums include a fading photograph taken along Horton Creek in Michigan when Hemingway was only five, and fished in a floppy straw hat with an immense split-willow creel hung around his neck.

Still limping from mortar wounds suffered at Fossalta diPiave, on the Italian front in the First World War, Hemingway spent an entire summer fishing in Michigan. Those experiences were later woven into his famous story *Big Two-Hearted River,* and family history tells us that Hemingway was almost late for his wedding because he was trout fishing on the Sturgeon.

When he returned from the Spanish Civil War to work on his celebrated book, *For Whom the Bell Tolls,* in 1939, Hemingway chose to write at Sun Valley. It was not long before he discovered the remarkable trout fishing at Silver Creek.

With friends like Gary Cooper, Ingrid Bergman and Clark Gable, Hemingway soon came to love the fine bird-shooting in the valley. They floated the watercress sloughs for pintails and mallards, and hunted ringnecks on the valley ranches. Fishing was good too, and the fat free-rising rainbows soon made Silver Creek their favorite trout stream, and that family tradition of fly-fishing still lives.

Jack Hemingway is his oldest son, and is such a dedicated angler that he once went trout fishing 200 consecutive days. Hemingway still lives in Sun Valley, and since his boyhood summers there, he has considered Silver Creek his favorite trout stream too.

His writing went well and Papa really loved it! Jack Hemingway explained that morning on the stream. *It was full of big trout and the fishing was terrific!*

You mean the fishing went sour? I asked.

Silver declined sharply after the Second World War, Hemingway continued. *People just fished it too hard.*

How did they fish it out? I said.

Most of the season, Hemingway explained, *Silver is too weedy to fish with hardware and bait, but in the spring before the weeds are growing, the fish are easily caught—they spawn pretty late and its a shame to take them.*

Spawned-out and thin? I asked.

Ravenous, Hemingway agreed, *but the fly-only regulations have turned everything around in just a few years.*

It's unusual to find anything getting better! I said.

Exactly! Hemingway shook his head.

His father is buried at Sun Valley, but in a sense that Ernest Hemingway would have liked, his spirit still thrives there in his oldest son. Jack Hemingway is fifty years old, with the boisterous moods of his father's characters, and is unmistakably his father's son in philosophy and style of life. His resemblance to his father is so striking that the Sun Valley regulars tell the story of an old Hemingway crony who encountered Jack Hemingway in the street, and stumbled pale and shaken into the Christianta Bar, thinking that he had actually seen a ghost from the past.

Jack Hemingway was the tow-headed little boy that his father nicknamed Bumby, and who lived in a cramped Paris flat over the courtyard sawmill in the Notre-Dame-des-Champs. Bumby and a babysitting cat named for Scott Fitzgerald both became part of literary history in his father's posthumous book, *A Moveable Feast,* which described their Paris world after the First World War.

During the Second World War, Jack Hemingway became an infantry officer, and participated in heavy fighting across southern France. He once parachuted into enemy territory with a trout rod on his back, and was finally captured leading an American intelligence team behind German lines in the Battle of the Colmar Pocket. Hemingway spent the remaining months of the conflict in German prison camps, attempted several abortive escapes, and actually reached Switzerland during one adventure. His freedom was comically short-lived, when an enterprising Swiss farmer literally sold him back to his German captors.

Taught me something about people! Hemingway laughed.

Hemingway explodes with his enthusiasms, which only his wife's good sense keeps checkreined with a modicum of control. Puck Hemingway is an Idaho girl whose father rejected Hemingway until he stopped fishing and found steady work. He had worked sporadically for the Winston rod-making company in San Francisco, but found it impossible to make a living in fishing tackle, and went back into the Army in 1948.

Puck wouldn't marry me unless I was working, Hemingway explained wryly, *and since I kept fishing with Winstons instead of selling them—the Army seemed sensible, since soldiering was the only trade I really knew.*

Hemingway later tried working as a stockbroker in San Francisco. After leaving military service again, and finally moved his family back to Sun Valley in 1967. He has settled down enough to serve as an elder in the church, teach languages in a local private school, and has been appointed to the Idaho Fish & Game Commission. The foothills around Sun Valley abound in pheasants, chukar partridges, quail and sharptailed grouse. There are still plenty of ducks and geese. The high sawtooth country still holds elk, bighorn sheep and deer, but Hemingway seldom goes shooting these days, and counts a love of fly-fishing as his happiest legacy from his father.

Papa primed me with cunning and strategy, Hemingway explained as we rigged tackle. *He loved trout fishing, but he seldom let me go with his friends—waited a whole summer without letting me come along, and then gave me an old Hardy rod when it was time for school again!*

Better than pushing a boy too hard, I said. *Sometimes a thing that is withheld becomes even sweeter in the end.*

Papa made fishing on Silver into something mystical and secret, Hemingway led the way downstream toward a favorite flat, *and although I'm past fifty, I still can't get enough of it!*

It's a beautiful stream, I said.

Silver Creek is unique among American trout streams. Although there are many spring creeks in our western mountains, none of these little rivers equals its size or volume of flow. Silver is perhaps less dramatic than the Firehole at Yellowstone, with its spectacular hot springs and geysers, but Silver is equally unusual in its character.

The Firehole exists in a relatively high alpine plateau, and like the Henry's Fork of the Snake, in its lodgepole basin fifty miles farther west, the Firehole is but one of many exceptional fisheries that exist in the Yellowstone and Teton country.

Silver Creek is startling in less obvious terms, in that its ecology parallels the storied British chalkstreams in Hampshire and Wiltshire, where fly-fishing flowered five centuries ago. Silver is startling because its swift-flowing springheads rise without prelude or warning from a flat valley floor that would literally remain a desert without its life-giving currents.

The principal springs that give birth to Silver Creek are found on headwater tributaries like Stocker, Grove and Loving. These three creeks are surprisingly large and swift, with exceptional volumes of flow at their sources. Each literally explodes from the barren valley floor, spilling thousands of gallons per minute into their watercress headwaters from the Stygian labyrinths underground.

Great blue herons nest in a large stand of aspen along Silver Creek.

Hydrologists believe that these giant springs are fed by water from the Big Wood, which drains the Valley. The valley floor is a remarkable aquifer combining immense deposits of alluvial stones and aggregates, which lie over a permeable bedrock of limestone and lava flowage. Whatever the subterranean source of these tributary springheads, and their remarkable volumes of flow, it is the soils chemistry and subsurface character of the entire basin that combine to create Silver Creek and its unique ecology.

The soils in its headwaters are so alkaline that they reach the threshold of toxicity for agricultural purposes. Well-meaning anglers have tried continually to introduce trees along its grassy banks, and have been mystified when the soils chemistry killed them, while ambient cottonwoods and aspens continue to thrive. Freshly tilled acreages on adjacent ranches are permitted to lie fallow a season or two, simply working the soil without planting, while precipitation and exposure to the atmosphere leach out the excessive alkalinity.

Subsurface hydrology is equally fertile. The geology of the valley combines sedimentary limestones

and phosphates with porous lava and river aggregates. Other hidden sources of alkalinity are possible, like hydrothermal caverns miles upstream toward Sun Valley itself, and underground layers of lime marls. Each of these factors ultimately effects the water chemistry of Silver Creek and its springheads, leaching their alkalinity through the twenty-odd miles of subterranean geology from the Big Wood drainage.

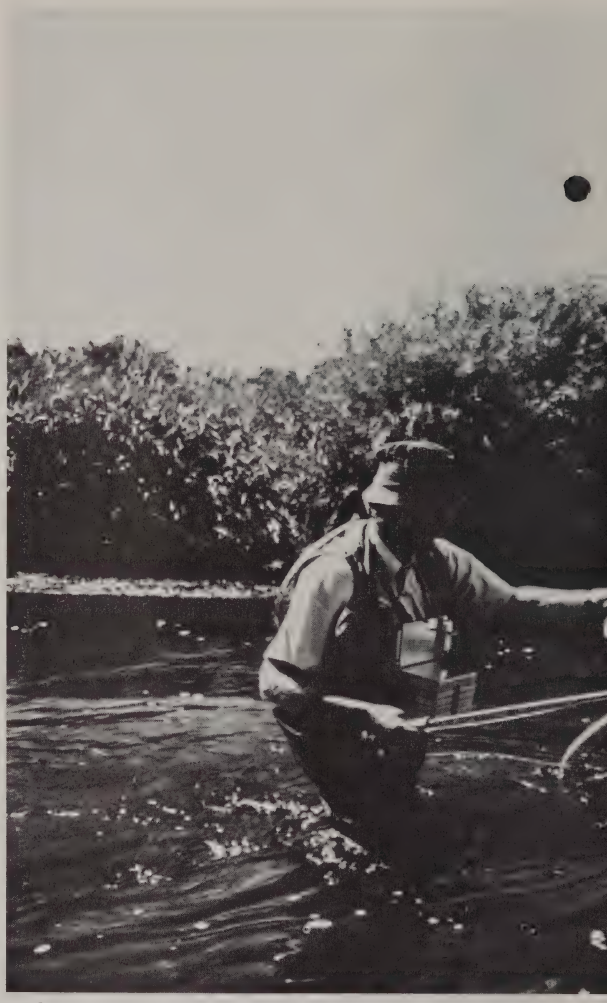
The combination of such latent fertility with year-round volumes of subsurface flowages is remarkable. Its echoes are obvious in the rich growths of watercress, rannunculus, chara, stoneworts, cattails, tules, water lilies, and elodea that distinguish Silver Creek from a typical western trout fishery, which is slightly acid and tumbles steeply through mountain country. Such fertility is also evident in its dense populations of fishlife, both its rainbow trout and its coarse cold-water species.

Since the springheads are relatively constant in both temperature and volume, the stream is a sanctuary for wading birds and waterfowl during both late-summer drought and winter freezes. Its fish enjoy relatively constant rates of growth, because water temperatures that remain close to their optimal metabolic temperatures, and are sheltered from the sixty-percent factors of winter kill that annually decimate an average mountain stream.

Both birds and trout are sustained by the exceptionally rich foodchain found in Silver Creek. The fish-eating birds and rainbows thrive on a surprising population of frogs and baitfish, and virtually all of the aquatic species sustain themselves on incredible numbers of tiny aquatic insects and crustaceans. Other birds gather along the stream, competing with predatory swarms of dragonflies and damselflies for the clouds of sedges and mayflies that hatch from the stream. These exceptional fly-hatches are sustained and sheltered in the fertile growth of aquatic weeds and undulate in the current. Yet their fertility is only symptomatic of the fertile water chemistry, and the rich bottom sediments that support their roots.

Silver is amazing in the spring, Jack Hemingway observed along the stream that morning. *There are red-winged blackbirds calling in the cattail marshes, geese clamoring for nesting sites, cattle and sheep in the pastures, bees gathering pollen in the wildflowers, trout rising to the early hatches, all mixed with the sounds of the stream —the fishing regulars call it Silver Creek music!*

Since Silver remains open and relatively ice-free in winter, at least above the irrigation hatches on its middle reaches, the Sun Valley Ranch is a haven for extensive wintering populations of waterfowl. When adjacent reservoirs and ponds



Jack Hemingway (left) and the author, both members of the project committee, enjoy an afternoon of fly-fishing on Silver Creek.

freeze tight, these spring-fed headwaters are sometimes the only ice-free refuge in hundreds of miles.

Its summers provide optimal nesting conditions for ducks and geese, which love its marshy banks and sloughs. Plovers and sandhill cranes and curlews are common, along with the birds of prey. There are redtailed hawks circling on the constant foothills thermals, with surprising numbers of golden eagles. Ospreys and kingfishers are found too, with marsh hawks and kestrels and prairie falcons. Goshawks and burrowing owls are numerous. Sandpipers and yellowlegs and killdeers are migratory visitors, along with substantial numbers of snipe. Wilson's phalarope loves the headwater marshes before its autumn odyssey to the Argentine pampas. Mourning dove music is heard after a passing summer shower, and bald eagles winter along Silver Creek. But perhaps the most remarkable example of its thriving birdlife lies in a stand of aspens at the Sun Valley Ranch which shelters

a thirty-nest heron rookery beside the Sullivan slough.

The herons eat some trout, Jack Hemingway said ruefully, *but the birds are so beautiful—even a hardcase trout fisherman like me has to accept the trout they get!*

Suckers and frogs are easier to catch, I said.

That's probably true, Hemingway agreed. *Any trout they kill was a foolish fish that deserved to be culled!*

Although Silver Creek has received extensive stocks of hatchery rainbows over the past half-century, which are hybrid mixtures of land-locked and anadromous strains, its fish population is isolated by the desert heat downstream. Unfavorable thermal conditions there prevent the downstream migration typical of hatchery rainbows.

Yet the resident population of rainbows, particularly on private ranches that are not stocked regularly, still bears strong traces of its origins in the McCloud River strains of northern California. The non-migratory rainbows originally native in the McCloud were perhaps our most valuable subspecies, although artificial mixing with migratory steelhead strains occurred in our first hatchery work in California. The original planting of rainbows in Silver Creek occurred late in the nineteenth century, before extensive hybridization occurred in the hatcheries, and the echoes of these relatively pure strains still exist.

You can always tell the Silver Creek fish, Jack Hemingway insists. *Their spotting patterns and coloring and configuration are completely different —and they're much stronger.*

Without future introduction of inferior hatchery strains, these resident stocks seem dominant in genetic terms, and can remain surprisingly close to the superb parent strains originally introduced from California. These native stocks are vigorous and handsome, and should probably be isolated from future genetic pollution. Although their diet may simply stem from the availability of fly-hatches in Silver Creek, its rainbows seemingly rise more freely to mayflies and fluttering sedges than their rainbow cousins elsewhere.

Silver has nothing but rainbows until it gets out into the rattlesnake bottoms beyond Picabo, Hemingway explained puckishly. *Out in the sagebrush country it's got some brown trout too.*

You serious about rattlesnakes? I asked warily.

I'm always serious about rattlesnakes! Hemingway laughed infectiously. *Rattlesnakes are a fine tool in modern trout management, because even rumors about rattlesnakes are enough to discourage anybody that isn't a serious angler!*

Let's look for trout instead, I said.

We spent two hours fishing the upper shallows on the Sun Valley Ranch, watching the hatch of tiny *Tricorythodes* mayflies emerge, and gradually gather into an immense mating swarm. The sunlight was quickly filled with thousands and thousands of mating spinners, their pale wings like miniature snowflakes, and their bodies like dancing specks above the water. The fish that had been rising earlier had stopped.

They're waiting for egg-laying to finish! I shouted. *I've never seen so many Tricorythodes flies—when the mating swarm is over, just watch the trout start working everywhere!*

When their mating dance was complete, the spent flies drifted downstream, almost invisible and pinioned in the surface film. Big rainbows cruised the weedy shallows, dimpling softly and spreading a heart-stopping wake while they sipped the tiny spinners.

Our minute white-winged imitations were tied with delicate tails and black bodies, and in spite

of their delicate size twenty-four hooks, we caught and released a dozen good rainbows.

How about some lunch? Hemingway shouted downstream when the fish stopped working.

Sounds perfect! I yelled back.

Hemingway retrieved the wine from a secret spring in the watercress, its label slipping with its baptism in the icy flow. We sat in the meadow below the heron rookery, talking about his boyhood on Silver Creek, and its difficult trout.

When did your father stop fishing? I asked

Papa lost most of his equipment when a steamer trunk failed to arrive from Europe, Hemingway replied. *So many Hardy rods and reels were gone that his heart wasn't in it anymore.*

But you still kept fishing, I said.

That's right, Hemingway observed wryly. *Maybe I was hunting for something I could do as well as Papa did it!*

Papa was a tough act to follow, I agreed.

After lunch we fished the point of rocks stretch where I watched a red-tailed hawk circling over the water meadows. There was a fine hatch of pale olive-bodied mayflies before long, and the fish started rising greedily. We both took fish steadily while the hatch lasted, and during the half-hour lull that followed, the surface of the stream flowed quietly. When the mating swarm of little *Pseudocloeon* spinners triggered another fine rise of trout, we simply sat in the grass and watched them.

When the heat of the midday had passed, we explored the lower river in its lava outcroppings below Picabo. It was a perfect day for grasshoppers, with a hot wind that kept the little red-legged Orthoptera active, and dropped them into the current. We caught and released a number of good rainbows.

Working upstream on the Purdey stretch, Hemingway found a three pound rainbow feeding on grasshoppers. In spite of the cool wind that eddied down the valley, the trout took his first cast, jumped six times while Hemingway played it skillfully. It finally surrendered while he fussed with his folding British trout net, and when he released the trout, it drifted lazily out and settled in a weedy channel at his feet.

That fish is an old friend, Hemingway explained.

We traveled back to the Sun Valley Ranch to fish the twilight hatch and found hundreds of tiny *Pseudocloeon* duns emerging in a deep channel along the elodea. The trout began porpoising softly in the meadows, and I took a fine two pound rainbow there on a minute imitation of these tiny olive mayflies.

The last fish of the day took my tiny fly with an almost imperceptible dimple, bolted upstream along a tangle of roots, and cartwheeled into a series of jumps that quickly stitched my leader through the overhanging willows.

That was a good fish, Hemingway observed as I retrieved the broken nylon, *but he sure took you to the cleaners!*

Let's quit while we're ahead! I laughed.

While the sky grew lavender on the horizon, against the soft serrations of the foothills, we drove back in the gathering darkness toward Sun Valley. Hemingway voiced his concern for public fishing on Silver Creek in the future, explaining that the Sun Valley Ranch had recently been placed on the market.

It's the finest stretch of Silver! He shook his head sadly. *But there's nothing to insure that its new owners will permit the public to continue fishing it when it's sold!*

You can't depend on their philanthropy, I agreed.

Hemingway explained his strategy for helping The Nature Conservancy acquire the entire 479-acre tract of the Sun Valley Ranch, keeping its four miles of prime water open to the public. Under Conservancy management, experimental agriculture can continue, the property will be protected from development, and its extensive population of ducks, sandhill cranes and herons will be preserved. Existing Idaho regulations restricting the stream to fly-fishing-only restrictions will remain in effect. The Nature Conservancy has already secured $150,000 in challenge pledges toward purchase of the Sun Valley Ranch. However, such challenge donations are predicated on small matching contributions from fishermen and others interested in its preservation as one of the finest public trout fisheries in the world.

Contributions intended to protect Silver Creek should be sent to The Nature Conservancy, Silver Creek Project, 425 Bush Street, San Francisco, California 94108. Your prompt donations are tax deductible and critically needed.

There were several other Sun Valley fishermen at the Ore House when we stopped for a late supper. *You two spent the day fishing Silver?* somebody asked. *How were the fly-hatches?*

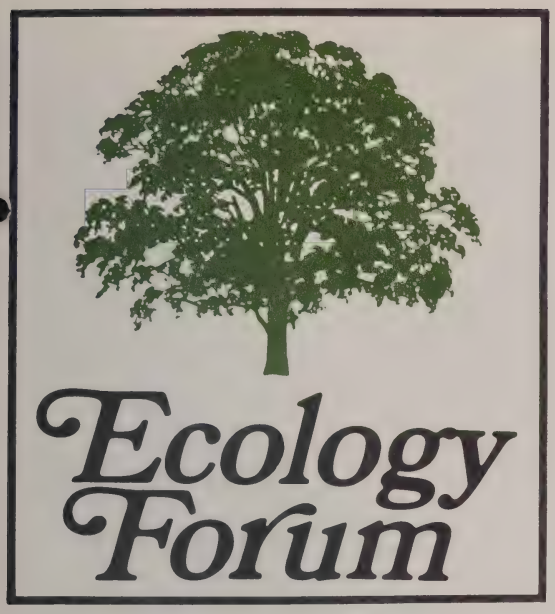
Hemingway's a pretty good guide, I replied.

He knows the Silver all right, the bartender agreed, *but did you ever hear about the fish he gets on maggots?*

Maggots? I gasped.

Hemingway is really strong on fly fishing, the bartender washed a half-dozen glasses, *but this spring at Pend O'Reille with the other fish commissioners he was found catching kokanee with maggots!*

Well, Hemingway observed wryly, *What is the maggot except a premature fly?*



No. 19
by Hardy Wieting, Jr.

THE PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS PROJECT

On the 23rd of May, 1972, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. entered into an "Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection." The agreement assumed that contemporary scientific, technical, and managerial achievements can improve "the interrelationship between man and nature," that mutual cooperation in the field of environmental protection would benefit both nations, and that "economic and social development for the benefit of future generations requires the protection and enhancement of the human environment today." Under Article 2, cooperation is to be implemented in eleven different fields ranging from studies of various forms of pollution to the effects of climatic changes, earthquake prediction, legal and administrative measures for protecting environmental quality, and the "preservation of nature and the organization of preserves."

Project V.3-1, "Protected Natural Areas and National Parks," has been created under Article 2. The inter-agency committee administering the Project is chaired by the Chief Scientist of the National Park Service. The committee has contracted with the Conservancy to provide a full descriptive analysis of the natural areas effort in this country. The Conservancy has recently completed a multi-volume study (not yet available to the public) of natural area activities undertaken at the federal level and is currently preparing a similar study of state and local activities. A third study of private efforts is likely to follow.

The study of federal activities centers on three main divisions. The first consists of the major federal agencies: the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and Defense Department. For each agency a brief overall statement of objectives and functions is given and then its natural area programs are explained in greater depth, elaborating specific goals, the process by which areas enter the program, the protection afforded such areas, and management guidelines. Descriptions—including biological information—of various areas in the program are also included to give an idea of the resources handled by the program. A general section on the history, legislative authority, administrative structure, personnel, and budget then follows. The second division of the study consists of federal inter-agency natural area systems: the wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, and trail systems. Here the discussion proceeds directly to the goals of each system and the way it works. In addition, such things as protection, management, history, administrative structure, personnel, and funding committed to the system are included, as are illustrative examples of protected areas in the system. The third division discusses federal inter-agency natural area programs: the program of the Federal Committee on Ecological Reserves and the National Natural Landmarks Program.

The Conservancy has taken on the Protected Natural Areas Project because the project will ultimately help save and protect ecologically significant areas. The Conservancy has for sometime now realized that its ecological objectives can be and must be pursued in a variety of ways that supplement and go beyond traditional acquisition. Perhaps the most significant effort to date has been the development of the State Natural Heritage Program. (Reports on this program have appeared in Ecology Forums No. 12, 15, and 16.) One important part of the Heritage Program has been the development of classification systems for the "elements of diversity" in states which have Heritage Programs. Another has been the design and installation of computerized data management systems to receive the data generated by inventories based on the classification system. Still another has been the fashioning of an effective system for protecting high-priority natural areas.

The Heritage Program inventory of elements of natural diversity provides two basic types of information which, in combination, lead to informed

(continued on page 35)

THE AMERICAN LAND TRUST

By Anne M. Byers

The American Land Trust is an innovative new conservation effort undertaken to save vital portions of the nation's diverse ecological heritage for the *next* 200 years. Directed by a committee of business, conservation, and civic leaders under the honorary chairmanship of Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, the Trust is designated to give citizens, industry, and foundations an opportunity to do something lasting for the Bicentennial.

An objective of The American Land Trust is to select and acquire for preservation at least one area of prime environmental importance in each of the 50 states. The program's goal is $200 million in donations of land or funds. The money will be used directly to protect significant natural and wilderness areas.

Because of its experience, the Conservancy has been chosen to carry out the program. Gifts, although given under the auspices of the program, are actually made directly to the Conservancy. The program embodies all the aspects of land preservation for which the Conservancy has become well known: inventories to identify significant natural areas, fundraising to purchase land, direct land acquisition, and expert stewardship of the land.

The first requirement for determining which natural lands should be included in The American Land Trust program is that lands to be preserved are ecologically significant areas of national importance which collectively encompass the widest range of biotic diversity possible. Criteria for lands sought for preservation under the program include: 1) habitats containing rare, threatened, or endangered animal or plant species; 2) examples of unprotected or inadequately protected ecological community types; 3) sites of other unique natural features or phenomena, such as exceptional geological areas; 4) lands which are outstanding for their lack of disruptive alteration; and 5) important additions to existing preserves, such as national parks and wildlife refuges. Furthermore, any natural area considered for preservation will also be evaluated for its viability, defensibility, and manageability (that is, whether it is large enough and adequately buffered to retain its natural qualities over time).

In late March, Assistant Secretary Reed announced the first gift donated under the auspices of The American Land Trust. Comprising part of the Great Dismal Swamp in North Carolina, an area of 11,000 acres, valued at $6 million, was donated by the Weyerhaeuser Company. The land will be deeded by the Conservancy to the U.S. Department of the Interior to form the southern boundary of the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge was established in 1972 through a 49,000-acre gift from the Union Camp Corporation.

The Weyerhaeuser donation lies mostly in Gates County, North Carolina. Plant and animal life in the area is abundant, and includes many species commonly found only in swamps farther south. The diversity of Dismal Swamp plants is prodigeous, and a number of them are believed to be endangered or threatened species. About 75 species of birds are known to nest in the Great Dismal, among them a dozen species of warblers. Two of the latter are relatively rare elsewhere—Wayne's warbler and the southern Swainson warbler. Black bear are known to live in the refuge, as are the endemic Dismal Swamp short-tailed shrews.

Since the announcement of the Weyerhaeuser gift, three more donations of land have been designated as part of The American Land Trust. The Union Camp Corporation has donated 3,800 acres of the Chowan Swamp in northeastern North Carolina. Valued at $600,000, the swamp is actually a forested peat bog—sometimes called a blackwater swamp, because the streams and ponds are colored by the dark pigments of the tree barks and decomposing organic soils. Animal species range from the endangered red-cockaded wood-

Eight and one half miles of Maine's pristine Seboeis River were donated by the J.M. Huber Corporation.

pecker to black bear, bobcat, grey and southern flying squirrel, wood ducks, a wide variety of other waterfowl, and many species of warblers. Chowan Swamp will be conveyed to the North Carolina Forestry Foundation for ultimate use as an environmental studies center by the North Carolina University System.

Two wildernesses in Maine were donated by the J. M. Huber Corporation: 3,793-acre Crystal Bog and an eight and one-half mile stretch of the Seboeis River. Together, the gifts are worth over half a million dollars. Identified as the "largest, finest unspoiled northern sphagnum-heath bog in the U.S.," Crystal Bog was dedicated as a National Natural Landmark in 1974. The virtually untouched bog harbors at least 10 species of orchids. The Seboeis River is fed by spring melts which turn it into a torrent of white water, parts of which have never been successfully canoed. Its clean, cold waters form a dramatic gorge along a three-mile stretch. The two areas will be managed and protected by the Conservancy's Maine Chapter.

Lands such as the Great Dismal, Crystal Bog, and Chowan Swamp, which are of national environmental significance, will benefit us far beyond America's Bicentennial celebration. Not only will valuable ecosystems and wildlife habitats be preserved, but future generations of Americans will discover the timeless quality of the nation's wilderness. Protection of biotic diversity as a vital resource through The American Land Trust will, in the long run, benefit all mankind.

The program of The American Land Trust represents the best in the American tradition by encouraging citizens, concerned corporations, and private philanthropists to protect forever our nation's natural heritage. To learn more about what you can do to help or how you can make donations of land or funds, contact George S. Wills, Executive Director, The American Land Trust, at 703/524-3151, or write to The American Land Trust, P.O. Box 2076, Arlington, Virginia 22202. Contrbutions may also be sent to the above address. Checks should be made payable to The Nature Conservancy. All donations are tax-deductible and will be placed in a special American Land Trust Fund which will be used solely to acquire and protect significant natural lands.

OAK LEAF AWARDS 1975

The Nature Conservancy acknowledges the outstanding efforts of its members and volunteers through the presentation of the Oak Leaf Award. This award, symbolized by a green and gold lapel pin, is given in recognition of especially dedicated service and support toward achieving the Conservancy's objectives.

Mr. Elting Arnold was Secretary of the Conservancy from 1955 to 1970, and has recently been active in the formation of the new Maryland Chapter. He played a vital and major role in the success and growth of today's effective national organization. Further, he was directly instrumental in the preservation of Thompson Pond in the Hudson River Valley, New York, and Battle Creek Cypress Swamp in Maryland, both National Natural Landmarks.

Dr. Charles H. Baer, chosen Conservationist of the Year of 1974-75 by the Mountaineer Chapter of the Audubon Society, is recognized for his efforts in acquiring two major West Virginia Chapter holdings: Cranesville Swamp Preserve and Greenland Gap Nature Preserve. He served as Chairman of the West Virginia Chapter in 1968 and 1969, and has served on the Board of Trustees since that time. Dr. Baer is also Professor of Biology at West Virginia University.

Mr. William B. Barnes, recipient of the E.P.A. Conservationist Award for 1974, has been the sole employee of the Division of Nature Preserves created by the Indiana Legislature in 1968. Through his efforts, the Division has dedicated 38 Nature Preserves, many in cooperation with the Conservancy. Mr. Barnes has served on the Board of the Indiana Chapter since the mid-sixties.

Mr. Russell L. Brenneman has acted as a volunteer legal advisor to the Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter, the Eastern Regional Office, and the National Office for the past 15 years. For his services and counsel as a volunteer attorney and for his assistance on many land acquisition projects, Mr. Brenneman is awarded the Conservancy's Oak Leaf.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Caldwell, Secretary of the Conservancy's Ohio Chapter during its crucial formative years, is recognized for her efforts and enthusiasm in spreading the conservation message statewide. During her term of office, Clifton Gorge, Buzzardroost Rock, and Lynx Prairie were initiated as Conservancy projects in the State of Ohio.

Mr. Gaylord Donnelley is a past Commissioner of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, a Director of the National Recreation and Park Association, and a Founder and Chairman of Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Donnelley has provided support and leadership to the Conservancy's activities throughout Illinois, and was instrumental in the protection of the Little Black Slough, the Illinois Chapter's largest project.

Mr. Philip W. Ham, trustee of the Conservancy's Eastern New York Chapter from 1955 to 1966 and 1972 to 1975, receives his award for his continuing work to protect the mountains of New York State. Because of his constant attention to legislation and policy affecting the forest preserves and other natural areas of New York, the Chapter has always remained well informed and ready for action.

Mr. S. Duncan Heron, Jr., and Mrs. Margaret Nygard receive their Oak Leaf Awards in recognition of their joint work to create the Eno River State Park in Orange and Durham Counties, North Carolina. Both Mrs. Nygard and Mr. Heron are members of the Eno River Committee, which serves as a Conservancy project committee, and both have been leaders in the successful efforts to protect the river.

Mr. T. Decker Orr is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Conservancy's Long Island Chapter and the Executive Committee of the Chapter. Mr. Orr drafted and implemented the Long Island Chapter's present innovative stewardship program, and was instrumental in the establishment of the South Shore Nature Center in the town of Islip, Long Island.

PRESIDENT'S STEWARDSHIP AWARDS 1975

Beginning this year the Conservancy will recognize an individual, a committee, and a chapter for significant work in advancing the art and science of stewardship on Conservancy preserves.

Barbara K. Hopper has been the Southern California Chapter Chairwoman for Land Stewardship for the past three years. She is responsible for leading the fund-raising and major stewardship efforts for the Murphy Preserve, and for developing the preserve's management plan.

The Connecticut Chapter, responsible for approximately 60 preserves, is noted for successfully initiating and carrying out four creative stewardship-oriented programs under the Rodney Johnson Grant Program, including a membership campaign, a Yale Forestry School course, a student intern program, and a preservation planning project (1976).

The Thompson Pond Committee created a special study group to complete an ecological baseline survey of the Thompson Pond Preserve. The results of the study and of the work done by volunteer scientists are now being used to create a comprehensive stewardship plan which will be used for scientific and educational purposes in New York.

ECOLOGY FORUM, continued

preservation decision-making. They are (1) the relative abundance or rarity of the ecological elements themselves, and (2) the protection or lack of protection being applied to the sites on which the elements exist. The information collected by the Protected Natural Areas Project is being used to identify and define current protection programs. The Project has enabled the Conservancy to acquire a vast amount of information about, and significant insight into, the ways in which natural areas are protected, statutorily and administratively, in this country. This, in turn, has substantially increased the Conservancy's ability to compare programs and decide which are effective and which are not, and to render advice to Heritage states based on comprehensive knowledge. Although this advice must in each case take into account the special characteristics of the Heritage state, the project has been very helpful in establishing a firm base from which to proceed.

The Protected Natural Areas Project has benefited the Conservancy in other ways, too. For example, the Heritage Programs require participants who are well-versed in the activities, methodologies, and capabilities of the Federal Committee on Ecological Reserves, the National Natural Landmarks program, and selected state natural area programs. The project has generated analyses of these which help train Heritage personnel. An analysis of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation's planning process and its criteria for administering the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is of use not only to the Heritage Programs (many of which are funded in part by LWCF money), but also to the Conservancy's government co-op program since a number of the acquisitions undertaken there involve LWCF funds. Another Conservancy program —one funded by the National Science Foundation and Exxon to establish a national data base on ecological preservation (see Ecology Forum No. 18)—also has benefited from the Project because the "protected status" category in the computer format for the data base is being designed in accordance with information that Project V-3.1 has drawn together from various government agencies administering natural area programs. The data base itself, which includes manual files, will be substantially enriched by Project-gathered information on funding, personnel, and acreage controlled by individual agencies, as well as by agency scientific classifications and descriptions of agency-controlled land.

Like the natural environment, the world of laws and administrative structures and regulations is constantly changing. This world has a substantial impact on which elements of ecological diversity will be saved and which will not. The Protected Natural Areas Project has permitted the Conservancy to begin systematically monitoring and evaluating this world, hopefully with the result that the Conservancy will be a more effective organization.

VOLUNTEER NOTES

CONSERVANCY MEMBERS IN THREE STATES ORGANIZE OPERATING COMMITTEE AND INTERIM CHAPTERS

Conservancy members in New Mexico, led by Colonel Henry Zeller, recently organized an operating committee. Chaired by Mr. Edwin C. Hoyt, the New Mexico Committee will lend support to the Conservancy's New Mexico Heritage Program. It will also be responsible for other Conservancy programs in the state.

The Conservancy is pleased to announce the formation of the Maryland Chapter, whose first project in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Field Office is preservation of Maryland's Choptank Wetlands, a 406-acre habitat for the endangered Delmarva fox squirrel. Chairman of the new chapter is Mr. Peter Black, and Senator James Clark is acting as Honorary Chairman.

The newly formed Tennessee Chapter received its charter on May 4. Dr. David H. Snyder of Austin Peay State University, is Chairman. In an effort to gain support and members, the Tennessee Chapter and Frame House Gallery of Nashville are jointly selling a limited edition of Ray Harm's color print, *Raccoon*. Some of the proceeds from the sale will go to the new chapter. An ad for the print appears in the April issue of *The Tennessee Conservationist,* along with an article about the Tennessee Heritage Program.

GIVE A DIME TO SAVE AN EAGLE

The Conservancy's Illinois Chapter is involved in an innovative and successful program called a "Bicentennial Celebration for Illinois Students." It was initiated to help save the American bald eagle. Students throughout the State are being asked to participate in the celebration by each contributing at least ten cents towards the purchase of land to create a bald eagle refuge in Illinois.

The program is being jointly sponsored by the Illinois Department of Conservation, the Illinois Audubon Society, and the Conservancy's Illinois Chapter. The American bald eagle was selected as the subject of the program not only for its national significance, but also because a significant portion of the entire population of this diminishing species spends winter months along the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Further, the program enables students to understand the importance of preserving a habitat to assure the continued protection and survival of the eagle.

The "Bicentennial Celebration for Illinois Students" was conceived after the Illinois Chapter saw an immediate need to preserve at least 600 acres of habitat along the Mississippi River in Hancock County at an initial cost approaching $250,000. A letter was sent to students explaining that this would be an impossible sum for any one person, school, or organization to raise; but it would be quite possible to fund-raise through the collective efforts of every student, if each would contribute a dime.

The Illinois State Superintendent of Education, Joseph M. Cronin, endorsed the program and asked for full cooperation from principals, teachers, and students. Packets containing an explanation from Mr. Cronin, guidelines and suggestions to teachers for promoting the celebration, and bald eagle pamphlets for the students were mailed to Illinois schools on January 15, 1976. Program activities were planned for the week of January 26 to 30.

Two contests are being sponsored as part of the program activities. In the first, every student is invited to select a name for the new refuge. The best name earns a prize of $50, with $20 given for second place and $5 for third place. The second contest offers a trophy to the one high school, junior high school, and elementary school which generates the greatest contribution for the purchase of the refuge.

The most exciting aspect of the program, however, is its success. As of March 4, approximately one month after the effort began, over $50,000 had been raised.

REGIONAL MEETINGS HELD

The Volunteer Activities Committee of the Board of Governors sponsored a meeting in each region with key chapter and committee representatives attending. The meetings focused on the importance of the Conservancy's long-range goals and provided an excellent communications forum for members and volunteers.

The Eastern Regional Meeting, headed by Bill DeSousa, was held on Saturday, February 14th, in New York. Dorrance Belin, a vice chairman of the Northeast Pennsylvania Interim Chapter, said, "I learned many practical ideas for improving our chapter, and was made more aware of the need for creating chapter plans and goals."

Wallace Dayton managed the Midwest Regional Meeting in Minneapolis on March 5th and 6th.

According to two Conservancy trustees, the meeting enabled those attending to gain a better understanding of Conservancy policies, at all levels, and to exchange views on similar problems in an effort to help solve them.

The Western Regional Meeting was held in San Francisco on March 13 and 14. It was managed by Frank Boren, a Board member and former Chairman of the Southern California Chapter. The agenda included reports by volunteers on specific chapter programs and discussions on such topics as fund-raising. Regarding the meeting, Barbara Hopper said that "having an opportunity to discuss plans, common problems, and possible solutions with one's counterpart in other states will increase the effectiveness of those responsible for preserve growth and stewardship programs in western states."

The final meeting for the Southeast Region was held in Atlanta on March 27. It was headed by Jane Yarn.

CONSERVANCY PRESERVES DEFENDED IN THE MIDWEST

The Conservancy's Minnesota Chapter recently won a decisive victory for the preservation of Western Prairie. On January 6th, District Judge C. A. Rolloff dismissed a lawsuit brought against the Conservancy by Square Butte Electric Cooperative which had sought to condemn Western Prairie.

Since September, 1974, the Conservancy has been resisting attempts by Square Butte to run a high power transmission line across the prairie, a State Scientific and Natural Area. During its construction and maintenance, the power line would have damaged the prairie, resulted in a visual eyesore in the center of the preserve, and would have been hazardous to the prairie chickens.

Indiana . . .

In a surprise move, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has decided to end its study of Fall Creek Gorge in Indiana as a construction site for the proposed Big Pine Reservoir. The primary reason cited for this decision is that the project ". . . would have meant the loss of both the rare and unique features in the Fall Creek Gorge, an area of aesthetic, scientific, and educational value."

The Conservancy's struggle to save the preserve was an unusual one, since it has—in the past—avoided political and legal action. However, if the gorge had been flooded, it would have been the first of the Conservancy's 1,500 preserves to be so destroyed. The news of the Corps' decision arrived just when Dennis Wolkoff, Indiana Chapter Representative was in the process of preparing a lawsuit in conjunction with The Environmental Defense Fund and many Indiana environmental groups.

SUMMER INTERN PROGRAMS PLANNED IN EASTERN REGION

1976 will be a banner year for student intern programs within the Eastern Region. Interns will be developing ecological inventories and preserve master plans, the two steps in providing for the long-range protection and use of each preserve. Students will be involved in several programs this summer:

The Maine and Central New York Chapters, and Mt. Holly Sanctuary (N.Y.) have each hired one intern through Massachusetts Audubon's Environmental Intern Program (EIP), which matches qualified students with a variety of jobs being offered by environmental groups and government agencies. Stipends for Conservancy projects are being shared by the EIP, the hiring chapter or preserve, and the regional office.

The Long Island Chapter plans to work with high school students this summer, while the Mianus River Gorge (N.Y.) Committee will continue its long tradition of hiring students as part-time warden-naturalists. The South Fork-Shelter Island, Eastern New York, and Western New York Chapters and the Adirondack Conservancy Committee are using local college students in their inventory and planning work. The Connecticut Chapter's Student Intern Program will continue in its second year.

Finally, the Eastern Regional Office, with the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and the New England Consortium on Environmental Protection, is co-sponsoring a project which will seek to demonstrate the usefulness of natural areas as biological baselines for research and monitoring. Conservancy preserves in New Hampshire and Massachusetts will be studied.

1975 ANNUAL REPORT

The Conservancy's 1975 Annual Report is now available on request. Write to Ms. Sue Dodge, Director of Publications, at the National Office.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Susan Bournique, pp. 11, 19, 22; Jim Brandenburg, p. 13; Ray Culter, p. 16; William F. Finley, p. 27; Michael P. Gadomski, pp. 4, 5, 7; Henry Little, p. 25; Tim Loomis, p. 16; Doug and Steve Morrison, pp. 8, 10; John Netherton, inside back cover; Tom Sennett, p. 9; C.M. Thorington, p. 19; Steven C. Wilson, p. 22; Jonathan Wright, pp. 28-29.

Ways of Giving

The Pooled Income Fund

Second in a four-part series

by L. Gregory Low

Many thoughtful people have elected to donate funds to The Nature Conservancy through their wills. In doing so, these people have made an important commitment to future generations, since their gifts will help insure that the Conservancy's programs for preserving our natural heritage will continue in an effective manner.

Undoubtedly, many of these people—and other Conservancy supporters—would like to make significant gifts *during* their lifetime, but feel a need to retain the annual income which the asset would otherwise earn. Fortunately, there is a way of giving which can accomplish this: the Conservancy's Pooled Income Fund.

A gift of money to the Conservancy's Pooled Income Fund offers the donor several advantages. For example, a donor has the satisfaction associated with giving *now* for the preservation of natural lands. The financial benefits are also great. A donor acquires an annual income for life based upon the Fund's investment performance and has the flexibility to designate the recipients of the life income. In addition, donors benefit from an immediate charitable contribution deduction on their federal income tax, as well as from reduced estate taxes caused by removing an asset from their estate. A donor also has an opportunity to avoid capital gains taxes, if appreciated securities are donated, and to increase the annual yield of an existing asset.

Basically, here's how the Pooled Income Fund works. A donor irrevocably makes a cash gift, or transfers securities, to the Fund (the Fund can accept only gifts of $5,000 or more). The Conservancy then signs a trust agreement to pay the donor (or his or her beneficiary) the donor's share of the Fund's income for life. Upon the donor's (or the beneficiary's) death, the gift is transferred permanently to the Conservancy.

Here are some of the details of the benefits already described:

Gifts are *pooled for investment.* All donations are put together with the gifts of other donors to form a substantial pool of money which is invested by the Conservancy, with counsel from a professional money management institution. The investment objective is to seek current income, as well as opportunities for long-term growth of both income and principal. Last year, for example, the Fund's investments (primarily high quality bonds) produced an excellent income yield.

Each donor names a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive an *annual income* from the Fund. Donors may, of course, name themselves as beneficiaries. Each beneficiary participating in the Pooled Income Fund is entitled to a pro rata share of the Fund's annual earnings (paid quarterly). For example, if Mrs. Jones made a $10,000 gift to the Fund, and the Fund earned a net income of 6 percent for the year, Mrs. Jones would receive $600 that year as her share of the Fund's income. This income is, of course, taxable as ordinary income. By designating beneficiaries, a donor can also provide life income for a surviving spouse, child, or any other chosen beneficiary. However, only two life-income recipients may be designated by a donor.

A gift to the Fund entitles the donor to a *deduction on his or her federal income tax return.* The amount of the allowable deduction is determined by official U.S. Treasury Department tables, which take into consideration the age of the beneficiary(ies), the amount of the gift, and the projected income from the Fund. For example, a $10,000 gift with income (assumed at 6 percent) payable for the life of one male beneficiary, age 60, would allow for an income tax deduction of $4,495. This deduction is subject to the usual carry-forward provisions and limitations for charitable contributions.

If a donor uses appreciated long-term securities to make a gift to the Pooled Income Fund, there is *no capital gains tax* on the transfer. The Fund thus offers an interesting possibility to a person who owns low-cost securities producing a low rate of return—that of *converting these securities into a higher-yielding investment.*

Estate taxes can also be reduced. The full amount of the gift to the Fund is removed from a donor's estate if the donor is the sole beneficiary. If another beneficiary is provided for after the donor's death, the value of the Conservancy's remainder interest (as of date of death) will be deductible from the estate.

The Conservancy has prepared a brochure explaining in detail the workings of the Fund. Interested participants should consult the brochure. Please contact the Conservancy to obtain a copy.

Please contribute to the General Fund

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325 West 15th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403
(612) 871-6231

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425 Bush Street, 5th Floor
San Francisco, California 94108
(415) 989-3056

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36 West 44th Street, Room 307
New York, New York 10036
(212) 869-9532

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1800 North Kent Street
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1234 N.W. 25th
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Suite F, 531 North Clippert Street
Lansing, Michigan 48912
(517) 332-1741

Rocky Mountain Field Office
820 Sixteenth Street, Suite 420
Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 623-8088

Connecticut Chapter
Science Tower, Box MMM
Wesleyan Station
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
(203) 344-0716

Long Island Chapter
P.O. Box 72
Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724
(516) 367-3225

Maine Chapter
Pond Road, Box 26
Manchester, Maine 04315
(207) 622-5123

Eastern New York Chapter
P.O. Box 22
Altamont, New York 12009
(518) 861-6860

Ohio Chapter
1504 West 1st Avenue
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(614) 486-4194

Illinois Chapter
708 Church Street
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